Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

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FBIS-NES-94-155 *11 August 1994*

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Arab-Israeli Affairs

Rabin, 'Arafat Hold Joint News Conference

TA1008151494 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1347 GMT 10 Aug 94

[News conference by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat with unidentified correspondents following talks at the Erez border crossing; broadcast in progress—live, in English, with simultaneous translation into Hebrew; transcribed from the English; italicized passages in Arabic]

[Text] [Rabin]... the continuation of the implementation of the Declaration of Principles [DOP] and the Cairo agreement. More specifically, in reference for the negotiations to implement the early empowerment and to discuss the question of elections. I stressed to the Palestinian side, to the chairman, Israel's commitment to the DOP and to the Cairo agreement, and explained that we have to work it in a way that the purpose, the goals, that are set in these two documents will be implemented.

At the same time, I brought to the attention, to the chairman, some problems of violence in the Gaza Strip and elsewhere, and no doubt, for us, the purpose is security and normalization of relations. We decided that the negotiations will continue on Monday [15 August] and Tuesday between the two committees that deal with early empowerment and of course elections. In Erez next week, the liaison committee will meet on Wednesday, and if there will be a need for another meeting between the chairman and myself and our colleagues, it will be done a week later, Monday or Tuesday, whenever it will be decided.

I hope that on the Israeli side, the Palestinian side, tension will be reduced, violence will be reduced, statements that undermine or against what we are committed to will not be heard by officials on both sides. And therefore, let's hope that what we are committed to will be implemented in the spirit of readiness to work together to cope with those who try by violence to undermine our effort to achieve the goals defined in the Declaration of Principles and the Cairo agreement. There are always differences of opinion, it's legitimate, and we have to overcome our differences in accordance with our commitments. Thank you very much.

['Arafat] What has happened is very important today, this meeting together, here in Erez, and we have to thank his excellency for pushing forward what had been agreed upon, for implementation, accurate and honest implementation for the DOP, and as his excellency had mentioned about the meeting next week to discuss the early empowerment in the West Bank and also the election, and after that, the liaison committee, and we hope that also, not to accept or to accept, we hope that we will meet together again, just to shake hands. [laughter]

In this attitude we ask his excellency for some points. Definitely we have some differences and it is legal, but in the same time, we had agreed upon to minimize all these differences between both of us, starting from the question of Jerusalem to the early empowerment, to the financing, to the donors and donations, and in the same time, we hope that through the continuous coordination between both of us, we'll be able to overjump what had been agreed upon, especially the obstacles. We haven't a magic stick, but we are sure that through this will, and with determination and continuous organizing these steps, we are sure that we will be able to overjump all our obstacles. Thank you again for giving me the chance, and we are sure that in the same time, his excellency, we are sure there is more determination, especially (?we are looking forward) [words indistinct], and tomorrow [words indistinct]. Thank you very much to what [words indistinct], and again thank you, thank you.

[Indistinct question] [Rabin] We did not discuss Jerusalem as part of the, because it's part of the negotiations about the overall, permanent solution between us and the Palestinians. There were remarks here and there about Jerusalem, but the negotiations of Jerusalem and other issues, in accordance to the DOP, will be done in a timetable that it is written there.

['Arafat] He is repeating his point of view and I am looking for it.

[Correspondent, asking partially indistinct question in Arabic about the Palestinian side's position about Jerusalem]

['Arafat] *This issue is pending a discussion between us.*

[Correspondent, asking partially indistinct question about the atmosphere at the Rabin-'Arafat meeting]

['Arafat] *Positive.*

[Correspondent] [words indistinct] *the funds from the donor countries to the Palestinian people, regulating Palestinian issues so that the money will arrive more quickly? Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], did you discuss the issue of the transfer of funds?*

['Arafat] *No, we did not discuss these issues here, naturally, but we will undoubtedly discuss them with the others.*

[Correspondent, asking partially indistinct question on whether 'Arafat stands behind remarks by Faruq Qaddumi]

['Arafat] Not to forget, he is the foreign minister of the PLO.

[Correspondent] [words indistinct] expanding of the Palestinian Authority, the autonomy, to Ramallah, Hebron, other cities?

['Arafat] This what we are, his excellency had mentioned, that next week we will be here in Erez to discuss the handing of the early empowerments in the rest of the West Bank.

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[Correspondent, in Hebrew] Mr. Rabin, have you concluded any details [words indistinct]?

[Correspondent, in Hebrew] Mr. Prime Minister, in the meeting between you, did you also discuss the issue of the financing of the donor countries' mechanism [as heard], the issue of the financial problems?

[Rabin, in Hebrew] I would like to make clear that Faruq Qaddumi's remarks run counter to the agreement, and it is inconceivable that we let this issue pass without reaction. Qaddumi spoke against what the PLO chairman undertook in his letter to me, an undertaking which was the condition for mutual recognition. If such remarks are heard in the future, they will serve as an obstacle on the road to making progress with regard to the implementation of the Declaration of Principles. I will then need to demand, more clearly, a date for the convening of the Palestine National Council to amend the Palestinian National Covenant. We will not be able to accept that a senior PLO leader rises and speaks against the very existence of the State of Israel. This is inconceivable, and if it recurs, it will constitute a serious obstacle to making progress in the current process.

[Correspondent] Mr. Rabin, did you hear anything on this issue from PLO chairman Yasir 'Arafat?

[Rabin] Now, to the funds issue—this concerns the donor countries and the Palestinians. In what form the Palestinians will receive the funds or under what conditions the donor countries are prepared to transfer the funds—this is not a direct Israeli concern, although we have great interest in having the funds arrive and be used as salaries for the Palestinian security personnel and police, the Palestinian apparatus officials in Gaza, and of course for development projects which we will surely very much want to see implemented in Gaza so that employment is created there and the economic situation is improved.

[Indistinct question] [Rabin] The safe passages on our side are ready. I hope that on Monday—I don't know when—Monday, we'll see, we'll make an effort to open them next week.

[Correspondent] [words indistinct] the PLO. You are saying it would be an obstacle if it's repeated. Is it now an obstacle?

[Rabin] Well, I cannot deny that it's an obstacle, because if some high-echelon person in the PLO could come with such a statement that negates the letter of the chairman to me that brought about mutual recognition, it's a real problem, and I don't want to deal with it publicly, but I said: Continuation of it will serve as obstacles on the road for what we are doing now.

[Correspondent] Mr. Chairman, what's your reaction to that [word indistinct]?

['Arafat] *It is necessary that in the coming week, negotiations begin at Erez about these issues, in a joint committee, and afterward there will be*[words indistinct] the Liaison Committee. *If any issue remains there will be a meeting between me and the prime minister to facilitate the resolution of problems* [words indistinct].

Jordanian-Israeli Talks Continue on Dead Sea

Subcommittees Resume Talks

JN1008113094 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1100 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Specialized Jordanian-Israeli subcommittees have resumed their meetings at the Moriah Plaza Hotel at Israel's shore of the Dead Sea. The security and water, energy, and environment subcommittees are each discussing topics within their purview. The civil aviation subcommittee will determine the route to be followed by Jordanian passenger aircraft as they cross the Israeli airspace. The economy and trade, drugs, tourism, and transport subcommittees are also meeting. The subcommittees will continue their meetings until 6 o'clock this evening.

The border committee resumed its meetings in Wadi al-'Arabah this morning also to discuss topics related to the demarcation of borders between the two countries on the basis of the British Mandate maps. The committees will continue their meetings until 6 o'clock this evening.

The official spokesman Dr. Marwan al-Mu'ashshir will hold a press conference at 8 o'clock every evening at the Foreign Ministry to brief reporters on the progress of the negotiations.

Jordanian Spokesman on Talks

Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Arabic 0950 GMT 10 Aug

[Interview with Dr. Marwan al-Mu'ashshir, spokesman for the Jordanian delegation to talks with Israel, by correspondent Sha'ul Menashe on 10 August; place not given; from the "With the Midday Events" program—recorded]

[Text] [Menashe] The negotiations will resume today, and will continue through next week. What does the Jordanian delegation expect, and what can be achieved in this round of negotiations?

[Al-Mu'ashshir] We attach great importance to the issues of borders and land. We feel that time is ripe for discussing the details of these two issues in a way that will realize the rights of both parties and enable us to finally delineate the border, and divide water shares. We noted that the atmosphere yesterday was very positive, and we expect to be able to get down to details this week and next.

[Menashe] There is much talk about psychological barriers between the Arab peoples in general, and the Israelis. Do the recent events and current negotiations remove these barriers or will they remain?

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[Al-Mu'ashshir] Undoubtedly, the latest events have broken down many barriers, and I think this is very positive for the peace process. Of course, I think that solving pending problems between Jordan and Israel will greatly help to remove most—if not all barriers. A positive development on the issues of borders and land will help the Jordanian society to remove most of these barriers.

[Menashe] Dr. Marwan, the Palestinians are strongly attached to Jordan. Jordan is the lung of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The question is where are the Palestinians on the negotiations map and what is going on between Jordan and Israel?

[Al-Mu'ashshir] There is a Jordanian-Israeli agenda and there are bilateral talks on the basis of this agenda, but it is clear that our links with the Palestinians are close, and there are strong historical relations that should continue. There are also problems that should be resolved by the three parties. We have been calling for coordination with the Palestinians even before the talks with the Israelis. We concluded an agreement on economic relations in the West Bank with the Palestinians. Although this agreement was not ratified by the Palestinians, we expect a ranking Palestinian delegation to visit Jordan within the next few days to continue this coordination. We also expect trilateral Jordanian-Israeli-Palestinian meetings to be held in order to solve all these pending problems.

[Menashe] Final question. Yesterday we saw on Jordanian television al-Yarmuk River water flowing into the Ghor Canal. The question is what are the expectations for the Jordanian-Israeli relations?

[Al-Mu'ashshir] In fact, the subject of water pumping from Israel to Jordan is not related to the negotiations. The pumping was not a result of negotiations but it was because Jordan faced a scarcity of water as a result of the drought during the current season. Of course, the negotiations on water with the Israeli side will focus on dividing or redividing the water shares between the two sides on a fair basis. At present, we are discussing the quantities of water that will be taken from Jordan and Israel, whether from the Jordan or al-Yarmuk Rivers.

[Menashe] Dr. Marwan al-Mu'ashshir, God grant you success.

[Al-Mu'ashshir] May God protect you.

Progress on Tourism, Energy

TA1008161194 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Another round of bilateral talks ended today between Jordan and Israel on the Israeli side of the border and at 'En 'Avrona in the 'Arava. The delegation heads reported significant progress on the issues of tourism and electricity. The border committee has reached a decision on the method that will be employed to demarcate the borders. Our correspondent Golan Yokhpaz reports from the Dead Sea's Moriah Hotel.

[Begin recording] [Yokhpaz] A second day of bilateral talks between Jordan and Israel were hosted on the Moriah Hotel's sixth floor today. Cordial discussions were held in the seven debating rooms between the members of the various committees and subcommittees on security, water, energy, environment, economic affairs, trade, police, tourism, and joint projects. Dr. Elyaqim Rubinstein, the head of the Israeli delegation to the talks, said today at the conclusion of the final day of negotiations that there were still problems with regard to water issues and the borders; however, progress had been made in the fields of tourism and energy.

[Rubinstein] Positive developments were made in the fields of tourism and energy, as well as other issues. With regard to tourism, the issues that were discussed and the hopes expressed were definitely positive.

[Yokhpaz] At today's talks, it was decided that Jordan and Israel will start offering joint tourism packages in 10 days. As for energy-related issues, it was decided that engineers would arrive in Israel on Monday [15 August] in order to examine the proposal to link the two countries' electricity grids.

The talks also continued this morning at 'En 'Avrona in the 'Arava, within the framework of the Jordanian-Israeli border committee. Progress was also achieved there with regard to the method that will be used to measure the border. The next round of talks will not take place until after the holiday season, Marwan al-Mu'ashshir, the spokesman for the Jordanian delegation, said, adding that on a personal basis, the members of the delegations had nevertheless managed to break the ice.

[Al-Mu'ashshir, in Arabic] Undoubtedly, the latest events have broken down many barriers, and I think this is very positive for the peace process. Of course, I think that solving pending problems between Jordan and Israel will greatly help to remove most, if not all, barriers.

[Yokhpaz translates above remarks into Hebrew and continues] The members of the Israeli delegation constantly update Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin on the developments in the negotiations, and the prime minister has apparently expressed his satisfaction. At any rate, the delegations have concluded the current phase of negotiations at the hotel and decided to dismantle the negotiation tents at 'En 'Avrona. On Monday, the talks will resume between all the committees here at the Moriah Hotel. [end recording]

Jordanian Delegates Comment

JN1008175094 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Interview with Fayiz al-Tarawinah, head of the Jordanian delegation to talks with Israel, and Dr. Marwan

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al-Mu'ashshir, official spokesman for the Jordanian delegation, by correspondent Jamal-al-'Abbadi; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Al-Tarawinah] The Washington Declaration has defined new topics, which are now being discussed in a way that shows commitment to implementation. We have subcommittees discussing borders and territories, security, water, environment, and energy. These subjects are being discussed by three subcommittees that emanated from the Washington negotiations. The Washington Declaration also defined other topics that need immediate implementation. Some of them have been implemented, like the [al-'Aqabah-Elat] crossing, which was officially opened but which requires, at the same time, certain measures defining entry, hours of entry and departure, working days, annual holidays, and movement between the two points. The distance between the two points is approximately 350 meters. These matters have been agreed on. Now, we are discussing the issue of air routes, which includes many technical details. Sometimes, these routes clash with some other routes, including the air force routes of both countries. So, the committees are discussing these points. These are examples. The basic subcommittees have many subagendas stemming from the main agenda. They are discussing rights a basic issue with which we have started. Therefore, I can say that the committees are discussing all these details very seriously. I and my colleagues can say that for the first time we have had the chance to discuss all these details. After agreeing on the principle of legitimate water shares and the terms of reference of the border demarcation in accordance with the British mandate plans, we began to discuss these basic issues and their details. Time is not important at this stage. The negotiating process should be serious. The Jordanian position is very clear. We will not leave anything without discussion. Everything should be discussed very clearly so that we will not face any vague points in the future. We will not leave anything for the future. We want to completely clarify every point, and there should be an approval of all decisions. No small or big point should be left because everything is important.

[Al-'Abbadi] There were news agency reports of differences during talks on water and border issues. Is this true?

[Al-Mu'ashshir] The issue of borders and water is a thorny one, and we need a long time and lengthy discussions to reach a solution. It is unreasonable to assess the results of the negotiations on a daily basis. Negotiations will take a long time because they will deal with many details and different positions by both sides. I believe that the current round of negotiations is positive. However, it is natural that there will be problems in all issues under discussion. We do not expect a solution in one or two days. This does not mean that we can term the negotiations as stumbling. Undoubtedly, all these negotiations will face many difficulties. However, we are confident that we can reach solutions.

Al-Tarawinah on 'Achievements'

JN1108063594 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] This evening, at the end of the first phase of the committee meetings at the Moriah Plaza Hotel, south of the Dead Sea, Dr. Fayiz al-Tarawinah, head of the Jordanian delegation to the Jordanian-Israeli peace negotiations, said today's talks focused on water and civil aviation.

He expressed the hope that during next week's negotiations the gaps will be bridged, and said some specialists may be added to the Jordanian team if there is a need. He said the negotiations are proceeding in a manner that does not call for pessimism, and the discussions of details require time.

He said the agreement on the al-'Aqabah-Elat crossing, for example, was reached in one day, but other projects, such as water and civil aviation, require more time.

He added that the negotiations were shifted to the region to enable the committees and the technical teams to continue negotiations that will be carried out in different sites along the borders when they discuss border demarcation, which is linked to the issues of security and water. He said we should make sure that these issues are integrated.

He said there was progress on the subject of borders concerning the mechanism for drawing joint maps, and emphasized that the objective of negotiations is to find commonalities because, eventually, the agreement will be jointly reached.

Meanwhile, the Israeli delegation issued a statement at the end of the meetings in which it said that, during the current round of negotiations, the Jordanian and Israeli delegations had reached an agreement based on the Washington Declaration concerning the next stage of the development of the Jordan Rift Valley.

The statement said the two sides will work out suggested bases for a plan on this subject during the next round of talks, which will be held by the end of this month.

For his part, Dr. Marwan al-Mu'ashshir, the official spokesman for the Jordanian delegation to the peace negotiations, emphasized that Jordan rejects normalizing relations with Israel before realizing all its demands dealing with its sovereignty over all its national soil and water.

In a news conference held at the Foreign Ministry this evening after the first phase of the second round of bilateral Jordanian-Israeli negotiations, he said Jordan is eager to discuss in detail all issues included in the agenda it signed with the Israelis and to reach a solution for all pending issues, without ceding our national rights and our sovereignty over our land, before signing a peace treaty. He added that normalization comes after the signing of such a treaty and not before.

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Dr. al-Mu'ashshir described the results of the second round of Jordanian-Israeli negotiations as good because the two sides moved to discuss issues of borders, water, environment, civil aviation, tourism, economy, trade, crossings, security, fighting narcotics, and joint ventures.

He said the two sides agreed on the mechanism for convening the negotiation meetings, on the hours during which the crossing will be open, and on the meetings of the 10 technical committees that should continue in order to reach practical agreements.

He said Israel had been insisting that Jordan should sign a peace treaty before negotiating with it to resolve pending issues, especially on borders and water, but it backed off recently and agreed to negotiate before Jordan signs a peace treaty.

He emphasized that the Jordanian and Israeli sides realized substantial achievements along the road of signing a peace treaty in order to build and entrench confidence between Jordan and Israel, since it is impossible to move from war to peace without embarking on joint steps to build confidence.

He said the second phase of the third round of negotiations will begin next Monday [15 August] and conclude on Thursday, while the committees will continue their works in a continuous manner.

Agreement on Crossing Hours

JN1108093694 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 11 Aug 94 p 1

[Text] The Moriah Plaza Dead Sea Hotel—Dr. Marwan al-Mu'ashshir, member of the Jordanian delegation to the bilateral negotiations and the delegation's official spokesman, has stated that Jordan and Israel agreed to open the Wadi al-'Arabah border crossing, which was inaugurated on 8 August, for arrivals and departures five days a week. The crossing will be closed on Fridays and Saturdays because they are religious days for the two countries.

Dr. al-Mu'ashshir added to AL-RA'Y that it was also agreed that the crossing will be opened to third country tourists, according to the Washington Declaration, from 0800 to 1600 for arrivals from Elat to al-'Aqabah, and from 0800 to 1400 for departures from al-'Aqabah to Elat.

Palestinian Affairs

Hamas Spokesman on Jordanian Role in Jerusalem

'Would Not Reject' Rule

MM1008132894 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 9 Aug 94 p 5

[Report by Muhammad 'Allam: "Hamas Does Not Reject Jordan's Rule of Occupied Jerusalem"]

[Text] Gaza—Dr. Muhammad al-Zahhar, spokesman for the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas), has affirmed that the movement "would not reject Jordan's rule of Jerusalem, so long as it remains in Arab hands." He reaffirmed Hamas' insistence on "work for the removal of Israel from the region in stages, and for the establishment of an Islamic state with Jerusalem as its capital." He pointed out that Hamas "does not need justifications from Israel for taking initiatives, and self-restraint is out of the question," but he did speak of "current circumstances which should be taken into consideration to spare the Palestinian people conflict."

In a statement to AL-HAYAH, AL-Zahhar said that "difficult times await (Palestinian President) Yasir 'Arafat, and opposition to him will increase in the coming months." He spoke of "Hamas' eagerness to avoid confrontation with the police through contacts between the movement and the military commanders." He said that, in his view, the crisis between the National Authority and the World Bank was a result of a crisis of confidence "caused by the previous financial position of the PLO."

Al-Zahhar said that "Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has no right to apportion rights to anyone. Historically, Jerusalem was never under the control of his ancestors." He stressed that the world's recognition of the Israeli occupation of the Arab territories occupied after the 1967 aggression "does not cancel our right to all Palestine."

He said that "Hamas does not reject a Jordanian rule of Jerusalem but we are against giving Israel control rights there because in the final analysis and in any circumstances it belongs to the Palestinians." He said he was confident about "the liberation of all Palestinian territory for the establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as the new capital for Islam and the Muslims of the world."

He warned against a failure of the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations "to fulfill the Palestinian people's aspirations," adding that the "alternative would be armed struggle to cut Israel out of the region in stages.... Europe should realize that Israel will disappear because this is a Koranic fact known to Israel's rabbis."

Al-Zahhar said he expects Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat to face a difficult period with increasing opposition and protests because of the "lack of improvement in the administrative performance, the consolidation of the occupation features, and the emergence of a group of profiteers, hangers-on, and agents in the current phase since 'Arafat's return, as well as the salary cuts for employees and for the police, the high prices of houses, and the spread of favoritism and factionalism."

Al-Zahhar asked "what compelled 'Arafat to accept the excesses and insults at the crossing points?" He pointed out that Israel "did not leave Gaza in order to return to

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it later," and he said that the Israeli military commanders' threats of a return to the pre-13 September situation should not be taken into consideration. He said he was sad "that our brothers in the PLO do not realize that fact."

On Hamas' charges of Palestinian police provocations against it, he expressed a sense of satisfaction "because relations are not tense now except on some minor points to do with contacts with and family relations of the military commanders." He expressed regret that Hamas Leader Shaykh Ahmad Yasin [detained by Israel] has not been released despite the fact that there were a thousand and one ways of fulfilling 'Arafat's appeals. He added: "It seems that 'Arafat was appealing to the Palestinian people to release Shaykh Yasin."

Al-Zahhar said he wished "the National Authority would not deal with the World Bank because it is the cause of the Palestinian people's calamities." He attributed the attitude of the bank and the Arab and Islamic states regarding the question of aid to "the crisis of confidence in the PLO because of the PLO's previous financial position which put it in a bad light."

Further on Stance

JN1108103294 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0630 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Telephone interview with Dr. Mahmud al-Zahhar, official spokesman for Hamas in the Gaza Strip, by correspondent Ahmad Rafiq 'Awad on 11 August; place not given—recorded]

[Text] ['Awad] Dr Mahmud al-Zahhar, official spokesman for the Hamas Movement in the Gaza Strip, AL-HAYAH published statements by you that Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] does not object to Jerusalem coming under Jordan's rule. Dr. Mahmud, what do you have to say to this?

[Al-Zahhar] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. First of al, this is not what has been said. What was said was what was published in local papers—that Jerusalem is a Palestinian land, is within the Arab circle, and that it is the responsibility of every Muslim.

The Jerusalem issue—with its moral, historical, and religious dimensions—makes all Muslims everywhere dutybound to regain Jerusalem. We also said that Israel has no right to give any person, any party, or any country any role on any place on Palestinian land because Israel is not the legal owner of this land. Therefore, what stems from an illegal source is not acceptable.

['Awad] Then, what about your stand on Jerusalem and Jordan's jurisdiction on the holy shrines, as mentioned in the Washington Declaration?

[Al-Zahhar] No one denies that Jerusalem is a Palestinian land, and that Israel and those behind it cannot change Jerusalem's Palestinian, Arab, and Islamic identity. The issue is clear and does not need any explanation.

Al-Husayni Calls For Saudi Role in Jerusalem

TA1008190494 Jerusalem New Channel 2 Television Network in Hebrew 1700 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Report by Yoram Binur]

[Excerpt] The Jerusalem issue continues to trouble the Palestinians. In a gathering of the Fatah leadership in Bethlehem today, Faysal al-Husayni called for joint supervision over the holy sites in Jerusalem, not only by the Palestinians and Jordan, but also by Saudi Arabia. Our correspondent Yoram Binur was in Bethlehem.

[Begin recording] [Binur] The Rabin-'Arafat meeting did not relieve the pressure exerted on senior PLO officials in the territories. The organization's members claim that 'Arafat made the Israeli-Jordanian breakthrough possible, but remained behind. In a gathering held in Bethlehem today, Fatah's senior activists leveled an equal attack on Jordan and Israel.

[Al-Husayni, in Arabic] The best thing is that in Jerusalem, at least, there should be a trilateral alliance comprising Palestine, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia. Probably, we as Palestinians will have to play the principal role in order to [word indistinct] this force and place all its potential in the battle for Jerusalem.

[Binur] It was not by accident that those invited to Bethlehem today included Fatah's political opponent, Dr. Riyad al-Maliki, of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, whose views against Fatah's political path have gained an attentive ear these days.

[Al-Maliki, in Arabic] The current problem we face today is that the Washington agreement between Jordan and Israel is the natural result of the weakness of the Palestinian negotiating stance regarding the issue of Jerusalem.

[Binur] PLO members today mainly fear that Husayn will beat them in the battle over who will have the greater influence over Jerusalem's future. [end recording]

Delegation To Discuss Jerusalem's Future in Jordan

MM1008130794 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 10 Aug 94 p 3

[Text] Amman, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Palestinian sources in Amman have the said that the visit made to the Jordanian capital by Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh and Faysal al-Husayni, members of the Palestinian National Authority, was intended to arrange for a Jordanian-Palestinian meeting within the next 10 days to discuss Jerusalem's future.

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The sources added that the Palestinian ministerial delegation will also discuss with the Jordanians a number of vital questions, first and foremost the economic agreement and the security situation, including movement of individuals from and to the self-rule area.

The delegation is expected to include Muhammad Zuhdi al-Nashashibi, who is in charge of financial affairs; Yasir 'Amr, education affairs; Faysal al-Husayni, Jerusalem affairs; Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, information and culture affairs; and al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim, former Palestinian ambassador to Amman and director general of the Palestinian National Council.

The clause contained in the Washington Declaration between Jordan and Israel regarding Jordan's religious jurisdiction over holy sites in Jerusalem angered the Palestinian president.

According to the Palestinian sources, opinions are split inside the Palestinian Authority Council over the method of handling the Jerusalem question.

The first tendency—which is represented by a number of members, foremost among them being Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, Faysal al-Husayni, Yasir 'Amr, and al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim—stresses calm handling of the issue. This tendency recommends that all issues and Palestinian concerns be discussed with Jordan both openly and clearly.

As for the second tendency, it is led by 'Arafat, Furayh Abu-Middayn, and Zakariyya al-Agha. It is known as the "Gaza group." They believe the issue of Jordanian jurisdiction over Jerusalem is an Israeli trick aimed at undermining the Palestinian right of sovereignty over Arab Jerusalem. This tendency believes it is necessary to raise this issue through a campaign at the Arab and Islamic levels.

Meanwhile Jordanian Foreign Ministry sources have denied knowledge of the Palestinian delegation's anticipated visit. They said that the Jordanian position on the Jerusalem issue has been clear, and that it was conveyed to 'Abd-Rabbuh and al-Husayni during their meeting with Sat'an al-Hasan, minister of state for foreign affairs; religious jurisdiction carries no political or sovereignty meanings.

Sha'th 'May Visit' Jerusalem's Temple Mount

TA1108092294 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0900 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Text] Nabil Sha'th may visit the Temple Mount on Saturday [13 August] and pray at the mosques there. Our correspondent Aviv Bushinsky has learned that Mr. Sha'th asked for permission to visit the Temple Mount and the prime minister and police minister acceded to his request.

Fatah Launches Anti-Jordanian Campaign in W. Bank

TA1008181694 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Arabic 1530 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Mr. Samir Subayhat, a leading West Bank Fatah activist and chairman of the Palestinian Students Federation, has said that Fatah activists in the West Bank have launched a mass campaign to counter Jordanian activity there. Subayhat told our correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem that Jordan intends to carry out a political Black September against the Palestinian Authority and circumvent the achievements of the Israeli-Palestinian agreement.

Our correspondent adds that this morning Fatah activists torched the Janin office of 'Allam Rashid, who is considered a supporter of Jordan. Anti-Jordanian slogans were also painted on the walls of the office.

Fatah Central Committee Urges Continued 'Struggle'

JN1008181194 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Tunis, 10 Aug (INA)—Meetings of the Central Committee of the Palestine National Liberation Movement (Fatah) were resumed in the Tunisian capital today.

Palestinian sources told a correspondent of the Iraqi News Agency in Tunis that the meetings, started yesterday, addressed three major issues; namely, the PLO's financial situation, the situation of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories, and the PLO's action strategy at present and in the future.

The sources indicated that the Fatah Central Committee underscored its support for the Palestinian people's intifadah in the face of the repressive measures taken by the Zionist occupation troops. The Fatah Central Committee also underlined the need to continue the Palestinian struggle despite the signing of the limited self-rule Gaza-Jericho accord. The committee noted that the sufferings of the Palestinians of the occupied territories, the fact that Zionist settlements have remained in place, and the continued oppression and humiliation of the Palestinians will remain a basic motivation for continuing and stepping up the struggle until the legitimate Palestinian people's rights are regained in full.

Security Chief Bans 'Foreign' Element Activities

TA1108053094 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0405 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Report on interview with Jibril al-Rujub, head of the Palestinian security service in the West Bank, by correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem; place and date not given—first paragraph is Qol Yisra'el introduction]

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[Text] Relations between the PLO and Jordan appear to be slightly strained. Jibril al-Rujub, the head of the Palestinian security service in the West Bank, said this morning that the Palestinians would not permit any foreign element to operate in the West Bank without prior permission from the Palestinian Authority. PLO officials fear that Jordan will step up its activities in the West Bank over the next few days in an attempt to drum up public support for King Husayn's anticipated visit to Jerusalem. Our correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem reports:

[Begin recording] [Ben-Menahem] The only way to stop the exacerbation in relations, PLO sources said, would be to hold a summit meeting between Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn in the very near future in order to coordinate positions. Meanwhile, Fatah continues to organize mass support rallies for 'Arafat. Such an assembly will be held this morning at the Bi'r Zayt University campus. At the same time, approximately 60 Palestinian journalists will demonstrate in East Jerusalem this morning to demand the reopening of the pro-Jordanian newspaper AL-NAHAR. Fatah no longer makes any attempt to conceal its anti-Jordanian activities in the West Bank. Yesterday, the office of 'Allam Rashid, one of Jordan's supporters in Janin, was torched. Fatah supporters organized mass anti-Jordanian demonstrations in Janin and its refugee camp, and in Ya'bad. [passage omitted]

Jibril al-Rujub, the head of the Palestinian security service, has openly come out against Jordanian activities in the West Bank. The opposition is spontaneous, he said.

[Al-Rujub] It started after the signing of the agreement between Jordan and Israel in Washington, and in the wake of Jordan's claims that it is responsible for the holy sites in East Jerusalem. This gave rise to anger in the territories and the residents are expressing their opinion against Jordan's steps and their support of the Palestinian Authority led by Yasir 'Arafat.

[Ben-Menahem] Several days ago, the Jordanians summoned pro-Jordanian officials from the West Bank to Amman to organize their activities following the signing of the agreement with Israel. Isma'il Abu-Hamid, the mayor of Yattah, is also among those visiting Jordan. Would the Palestinian Authority permit pro-Jordanian activity in the West Bank?

[Al-Rujub] We will not permit anyone to operate in the West Bank without first receiving permission from the Palestinian Authority led by Yasir 'Arafat.

[Ben-Menahem] Do you believe that Yasir 'Arafat will permit Jordanian officials or institutions to engage in political activity in the West Bank?

[Al-Rujub] Yasir 'Arafat will decide according to the national interests of the Palestinian people.

[Ben-Menahem] Whichever way you look at it, tensions between the supporters of the PLO and Jordan in the territories appear to be on the rise. The only way to stop the deterioration, Fatah sources stressed, would be if Jordan recognized the Palestinians' rights over Jerusalem and the holy sites and coordinated all activities on these issues with the Palestinians. [end recording]

Al-Husayni To Meet Ambassadors at Orient House

TA1108092894 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0900 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Text] Faysal al-Husayni is scheduled to meet foreign ambassadors in Israel at Orient House this afternoon. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that this morning, al-Husayni met with the consuls of several foreign countries and is now meeting the deputy U.S. consul in Jerusalem.

Palestinian sources told our correspondent that al-Husayni will ask the foreign representatives to help expedite financial aid from the donor countries to the autonomy coffers. Al-Husayni will also discuss the status of Jerusalem.

Israeli 'Objectivity' at Summit Urged

TA1008141794 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 10 Aug 94 p 13

[Editorial: "The Erez Meeting"]

[Text] Today's meeting at the Erez checkpoint between Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin will presumably have a full agenda of permanent or new issues and topics stemming from recent developments. Those issues have accumulated with time, and it has become necessary to discuss and resolve them as soon as possible.

There is the problem of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails and the need to create an effective mechanism for releasing all of them without any discrimination or conditions. The issue of female prisoners has a special priority due to humanitarian and civil reasons. It is neither logical nor acceptable to suffice with the Israeli proposal, which has not been implemented yet, on releasing only 10 female prisoners and keeping the rest in jail.

Furthermore, it is extremely important to give a real impetus to the issue of early transfer of the powers that have been agreed on to the Palestinian Authority. Those powers should cover the entire West Bank with all that this might entail in terms of redeploying Israeli forces outside Palestinian towns and population centers. The Palestinian police should assume the task of maintaining security in those towns and centers with the withdrawal of the Israeli Army from them.

The issue of elections is regarded as a consequence and result of the transfer of powers to the Palestinian Authority on one hand, and the redeployment of Israeli forces and the presence of Palestinian police in heavily

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populated areas on the other hand. This should be coupled with an international presence in the Palestinian Authority's areas as stipulated in the Palestinian-Israeli agreements, but so far Israel has dragged its feet in discussing this issue with the Palestinian side.

Undoubtedly, issues related to recent political developments, especially the third clause about Jerusalem in the Jordanian-Israeli Washington Declaration, need to be clarified by the Israeli side after having been accompanied by a media uproar over an issue which is supposed to be postponed until the final settlement talks. This has been Israel's stated position in its talks with the Palestinians.

This agenda, filled with issues that will be discussed at the Palestinian-Israeli summit, requires the utmost seriousness and objectivity by the Israeli side so that the meeting may yield a real step that advances the peace process following a period of stagnation which the Palestinian-Israeli track has witnessed in recent weeks.

Reported Qaddumi Remarks on Israel Rejected

TA1008173994 Tel Aviv Educational Television Network in Hebrew 1400 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Interview with Dr. Ahmad al-Tibi, political adviser to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, by correspondent Dan Margalit in the studio; from the "New Evening" program—live]

[Excerpt] [Margalit] Good evening to Dr. Ahmad al-Tibi, Ya'ir 'Arafat's adviser.

[Al-Tibi] Good evening.

[Margalit] We just heard Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin comment on disturbing statements by Palestinian officials. I assume he was referring to Faruq Qaddumi's remarks about the need to terminate Israel's existence. What is your reaction to Qaddumi's statements?

[Al-Tibi] I do not know if these remarks were actually made. However, if they were, then they were definitely uncalled for and I regret them.

[Margalit] Uncalled for or wrong?

[Al-Tibi] They are also very wrong and very unhelpful with regard to the peace process. They also contravene the policy of the Palestinian Authority.

[Margalit] Dr. al-Tibi, I heard you tell Qol Yisra'el this morning that although Rabin may prefer King Husayn's royal yacht and nice clothes—things Yasir 'Arafat does not have—the PLO chairman is the man to talk to. That is more or less what you said, correct?

[Al-Tibi] Right.

[Margalit] So now I am asking you what direct steps do you really think Israel can take in order to promote the agreement with the Palestinians at the present stage?

[Al-Tibi] I think that the success of the agreement, the success of the Palestinian Authority, and the success of PLO Chairman 'Arafat, will constitute a joint Palestinian-Israeli success. After all, this is a Palestinian-Israeli agreement, and a Palestinian failure would also be a setback for Israel because everyone knows that the Gaza Strip is not some distant place beyond the border. It is right in your own backyard.

[Margalit] But what can Israel do in practice?

[Al-Tibi] In practice, several steps can be taken. For example, expanding the powers of the Palestinian National Authority to the rest of the West Bank and holding elections as quickly as possible in order to grant widespread popular legitimacy to the elected Palestinian officials. The Palestinian Authority must definitely conduct bilateral negotiations with the World Bank and the donor countries in order to receive funds as soon as possible.

[Margalit) But how can Israel get more money for the Palestinians from the World Bank or the donor countries than the Palestinians and Arab states can recruit themselves?

[Al-Tibi] You are correct. It is not Israel's direct responsibility to deal with this matter. The Palestinian Authority must discuss this with the donor countries, the World Bank, and the Arab states.

[Margalit] So what would you demand from Israel? That Israel grant money? Increase the number of Gazan laborers in Israel? I am talking about concrete steps now.

[Al-Tibi] Israel should undoubtedly facilitate the departure of workers. There is a bilateral economic agreement that should be implemented. More agricultural exports should be permitted. Regrettably, this is where things stand at this stage. [passage omitted]

Paper Warns Against 'Dictatorial Regime'

TA1008174894 Jerusalem AL-TALI'AH in Arabic 4-10 Aug 94 p 3

[Editorial: "Our Democracy and the Bitter Reality"]

[Text] It would be proper for our Palestinian Authority to ponder the fact that its numerous statements, affirming its commitment to democracy, have failed to create the required impact among the residents. What happened was the contrary. Concern and doubts have increased, not about the Authority's power, but about its intentions to fulfill those commitments.

In our view, the issue goes beyond intentions despite the fact that there are things which justify the doubts. The Authority must confront the bitter reality and announce that publicly.

If one cannot give away what one does not own, the bitter reality is that the Palestinian Authority does not possess democracy so that it cannot give it to the masses.

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This cannot be attributed only to the fact that it is insisting on adhering to the same self-administration approach to which it had been accustomed in Beirut to the last days in Tunis.

As we all know and, naturally, as our Authority is aware, it is bound by the Cairo agreement obligating it to continue applying the occupation's military laws and orders. The agreement deprived it of the power to make any change in this statutory reality except with the Israeli side's approval. We also know that the occupation is dragging its feet in discussing the issue of elections and rejects the principle of our people's attainment of a legislative council. Therefore, since our Authority is in such a situation—working under the wing of military rule—it is obliged to become a dictatorial Authority. The transfer of power, through statements, from military personnel to civilians does not change anything.

So, in fact, the decision to ban the distribution of AL-NAHAR and AKHBAR AL-BALAD was not what sounded the warning bells against a dictatorial regime whose outlines have begun to appear. Rather, it was the Cairo agreement. If we want to be more accurate, it is the occupation that has withheld all the possibilities of the Palestinian Authority turning into a democratic Authority—an Authority of institutions, of the rule of law, and of the people's hopes and goals.

We have repeatedly said and reiterate that the way to develop the Cairo agreement—the way to establish a democratic system—begins in the election of a Palestinian legislative council with the powers not only to abrogate the rest of the military orders and laws which restrict freedoms and which are incompatible with democracy, but also to enact legislation and laws that reinforce democracy as a method of work, treatment, and conduct. This council should enact legislation that ensures the separation of the three powers—executive, legislative, and judicial—and should have the power to monitor, hold accountable, query, and dismiss the executive authority and appoint another one.

If our Authority really wishes to give proof of its seriousness regarding democracy, it should instruct its negotiators to insist on the demand of electing a legislative council and expose Israel if it keeps rejecting this demand. Then, Israel will be accused of imposing a dictatorial authority over the Palestinian people before any other personal wishes of this or that Palestinian official.

Official Views Economy, Ties With Egypt

NC1008114494 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1005 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Cairo, 10 Aug (MENA)—Dr. 'Atif 'Allunah, a member of the Palestinian negotiating team responsible for financial and monetary affairs, has described Egyptian-Palestinian economic and political relations as excellent. He noted that the Palestinian Authority welcomes Egyptian and Arab investment in every industrial and commercial sector to boost the Palestinian economy.

In a news conference he held today on the sidelines of a meeting among Egyptian and Palestinian businessmen, the Palestinian official stated that the Palestinian-Israeli economic agreement recently signed in Paris permitted Palestinian investors and businessmen to import any commodities in Egypt without paying customs duty, in appreciation of Egypt's role in support of the Palestinian cause. He pointed out that several Palestinian investment companies have recently been set up in the self-rule areas and some Palestinian businessmen have started to return from abroad to invest in the self-rule areas.

The Palestinian official pointed out that the Israelis have established close economic ties with the Palestinian economy so that the latter may become subject to the Israeli economy. He noted that 91 percent of Palestinian imports come from Israel, while the rest come from Arab and foreign countries. He stressed that the Palestinian National Authority will not readjust trade exchange with Israel quickly, adding that the Palestinian and Israeli economies need to be disengaged gradually.

Dr. 'Allunah noted that the Palestinian economy lacks the infrastructure needed for economic progress, particularly in telecommunications, sewage, electricity, and communication. He pointed out that there is a strong tendency within the Palestinian National Authority to leave the implementation of infrastructure work to private Palestinian, Arab, and foreign businessmen rather than wait for external aid. He noted that Arab businessmen in particular could make a major contribution in this regard.

The Palestinian official explained that one of the most important goals of the Palestinian authority is to strengthen Palestinian industry abroad away from any external monetary aid to permit the Palestinians to stand up to foreign competition and enter world markets. He noted that contacts are continuing with Palestinian capitalists to support the Palestinian economy and assist the PLO.

An investment conference was scheduled to be held in Jerusalem on 1 July.

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Algeria

Security Service Names Suspect in French Killings

LD1008175294 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Security services said today it was able to identify the principle executor of the operation in which five French nationals were killed on 3 August in the capital's Deli Ibrahim municipality.

The man is Djamal Zitouni, 26, who was also behind the execution of several operations against security services, foreign nationals, and citizens.

On the other hand, the security services said that reporter and photographer Addel Abderrahmane who works for L'HORIZON newspaper, yesterday escaped an assassination attempt in front of his home in Boudouaou in Boumerdes province. The same source said that Addel Abderrahman sustained slight injuries.

Further on Suspect

LD1008203494 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Excerpt] The security services said today that they had identified the principle executor and instigator of the killing of five French nationals in Deli Ibrahim on 3 August.

Djamal Zitouni is a former militant of the outlawed FIS [Islamic Salvation Front] and the leader of an armed gang active in the Bir Khadem area. Djamal Zitouni also killed two other French nationals in Bir Khadem and two Yugoslavs in the (Teklea) garden in Ben Aknoun. He was identified as having organized and carried out a number of attacks on members of the security forces and the public in the Bir Khadem area. [passage omitted]

FIS Aide Assails French Stance, Lauds U.S.

MM1008155094 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 10 Aug 94 pp1, 4

[Interview with Anwar Haddam, head of the Islamic Salvation Front Parliamentary Mission abroad, by Randah Taqiyy-al-Din in Paris; date not given]

[Text] [Taqiyy-al-Din] How do you compare the attitudes of the United States and France towards the members of the Islamic [Salvation] Front [FIS]?

[Haddam] We encourage the American position which views matters realistically, not emotionally. I believe that the U.S. Administration is more realistic than France. Unfortunately, there is a French political class which wants to drag France into a position that runs counter to the interests of the peoples of the region.

[Taqiyy-al-Din] The United States used to tell France, on the question of your presence on U.S. territory, that you were moderate and that the FIS was not a terrorist organization. But after your support for union with the Armed Islamic Group [GIA] which claimed responsibility for the killing of French nationals, how could anyone continue to say that you are moderate?

[Haddam] I am an FIS member and head of the Parliamentary Mission in the United States [as published; AL-HAYAH elsewhere describes Haddam as "head of the FIS Parliamentary Mission abroad"]. I want to recall what we told French Interior Minister Charles Pasqua, to the effect that it would be in his interest to reconsider the irresponsible statements in which he tried to label those who were democratically elected in Algeria as terrorists. With whom does he think France would be able to have a dialogue in the near future? We in the FIS believe that it is our legal and legitimate duty to defend our people's interests and to support their just cause.

[Taqiyy-al-Din] What is your position on the killing of foreigners?

[Haddam] We have condemned all attacks on any person who does not participate or directly lead repressive actions against our people. We do not have accurate details about the assassination of the French nationals or the real mission of the five French policemen who were assassinated. Three of them were wearing police uniforms. We asked the French authorities to explain the real mission of these people. We also conveyed to the U.S. authorities our concern regarding the French authorities' serious interference in Algeria. A French military presence will never be acceptable to the Algerian people. We hope that France will not internationalize the Algerian question or become a party to the conflict. We would prefer it to be a party to a solution of the problem.

[Taqiyy-al-Din] Do you see any room for dialogue with the Algerian authorities?

[Haddam] The FIS Parliamentary Mission is authorized by the National Executive Bureau to continue its political work. One of our duties is to try to find a political solution to the Algerian crisis. We are still open to any solution or proposal. The fact is that there are those who want to spread propaganda against us to minimize our political activity which is meant to find a peaceful and political solution to the crisis. We regret that. Do not forget that thousands of Algerians have been martyred and hundreds are killed every week by the Algerian deterrent forces, and they are innocent.

[Taqiyy-al-Din] After what has happened between France and the FIS and after Pasqua's statements, how is the U.S. Administration treating you?

[Haddam] Having allowed us—in contrast to what happened in France—to explain our views, we hope that they will maintain that line because they are a leading superpower in the world. We hope the U.S. Administration will contribute to a solution.

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[Taqiyy-al-Din] How do you view France's detention of 17 pro-FIS Islamists?

[Haddam] We condemn that action and ask France, which claims to be the state of justice and fraternity, to treat them like human beings with all their rights and duties. We believe that everyone who supports the FIS always respects the law. That is why we hope that France will grant these people the right to defend themselves and treat them not on a political basis but on the basis of justice. Yes, we do want an Islamic state but not at the expense of good neighborliness. Whether they like it or not, the peoples of France and Algeria will have future relations. It is unwise of France to start this hostility. The French political circles should understand one thing. They should revise the system of the Fifth Republic which flagrantly allows the security authorities to interfere in political affairs. Thank God there is no such system in the United States.

[Taqiyy-al-Din] According to a French newspaper, you have personally decided to join the GIA.

[Haddam] We are continuing the mission assigned to us by the FIS Executive Bureau, to carry on with our political work. At the same time we stand with our people in their plight and we believe that it is our right and duty to support our people for the sake of salvation from that regime so that they may be able to choose their political authority in complete freedom.

[Taqiyy-al-Din] A large number of Algerian people are opposed to the establishment of an Islamic republic.

[Haddam] Whoever says that many in Algeria are against the establishment of an Islamic republic should first consider whom the majority of the people supported. That majority was evident in the results of the honest and free elections which were canceled (in 1992).

Accuses France of Planning 'War'

LD1008162894 Paris LCI Television in French 1600 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] In Washington, Anwar Haddam, the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] representative for Europe and the United States, has been speaking to the French press. He is once again raising the stakes and provoking France. Anwar Haddam simply accused France of preparing a new Algerian war:

[Begin Haddam recording] We see what is happening now as just a way of psychologically preparing the French people—and we have nothing against the French people—so that they can swallow the idea of a new French military intervention. This would be really disappointing, because Algeria is not Rwanda. Algerians will never accept the military presence of any foreign force in Algeria. I hope that reality will prove me wrong, but we fear that everything which is happening now is just a way of justifying a decision which has already been taken by the French political class to involve France as part of the solution to the problem in Algeria, and hence to internationalize the Algerian question. [end recording]

Magazine Cites U.S. Memorandum to Government

NC1008205494 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 8 Aug 94 pp 24, 25

[Report by Fa'izah Sa'd]

[Excerpt] The security situation in Algeria is heading from bad to worse. A full-scale civil war is expected to break out, especially as mobilization is increasing among the Islamists, in addition to their control of several towns. A military coup is expected against President Liamine Zeroual. In general, the situation is headed toward a standoff.

Following some congressmen's criticism of the U.S. Government for ignoring the events in Algeria, a few days ago the U.S. Government sent a memorandum to the Algerian Government spelling out its stand on these events. The memorandum contains four points: The need to make the government in Algeria more democratic, to resume the election process, and to introduce more economic reforms and respect for human rights.

Simultaneously to this memorandum, the U.S. Government offered $2 billion in loans to the Algerian oil and gas sector. It also offered short-term guarantees for private U.S. banks to help U.S. companies sell agricultural products to Algeria.

The U.S. memorandum describes the security situation in Algeria as graver than it was six months ago. Over 5,000 people have been killed since the election process was suspended in December 1991. This has been accompanied by serious violations of human rights by the Algerian authorities and ugly violations by Islamic group members.

The U.S. memorandum says the United States cannot continue to defend the regime and turn Islam into a scapegoat, because Islam is not an enemy of the United States. The United States must find a way to deal with the realities of the various societies in the world.

The memorandum adds that the Islamic groups were not intransigent or terroristic when the military seized power before the second phase of the elections, which the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) was slated to win.

Reports from Algeria say that for some time the U.S. Government has been grooming new commanders for the Algerian Army. The U.S. authorities are training hand picked Algerian officers under a U.S.- Algerian security cooperation program. Meanwhile, many people expect an imminent military coup in Algeria, especially since the dialogue with the FIS has reached the point of no return and the escalation of the acts of violence and counterviolence in a frightening and detrimental way.

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For its part, realizing that power has come close to its grasp, the FIS is using the slogan of "no dialogue, no reconciliation, and no negotiations with Zeroual." This has prompted all the Islamic armed factions to merge in one organization under a new amir—Abu- 'Abdallah Ahmad, also known as Sherif Qasimi, while 'Abbas Medani and 'Ali Belhaj represent the political wing of the organization. [passage omitted]

'War of Nerves' Breaks Out Among Islamist Factions

MM1108110294 London THE EUROPEAN in English 12-18 Aug 94 p 2

[Report by Roger Faligot: "Islam Rule Inevitable, Says U.S."]

[Text] Paris—A confidential American State Department document on the possible partition of Algeria has prompted criticism of the United States by French Interior Minister Charles Pasqua, The European has learnt.

The briefing paper, by American specialists on Islamic affairs, suggests that an eventual Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) government in Algeria is inevitable.

It adds that the southern region of Kabylia, where the majority of the Berber population opposes Islamic fundamentalism, could become independent.

The document urges the US to maintain contacts with FIS leaders and agree joint exploitation of the oil reserves in the Sahara region of the country, leading to the US eventually replacing France as Algeria's main economic ally.

American officials, including the CIA, have maintained contact with FIS representatives in exile since the latest crisis blew up—although the defection of Anour Haddam, the FIS's unofficial "ambassador" in Washington, to the more extreme Armed Islamic Group (GIA) has caused embarrassment. The US has always been careful to differentiate between so-called "moderate" and "extreme" fundamentalist elements.

Pasqua pledged that the clampdown on Muslim fundamentalists in France would continue, saying in a radio interview on 9 August: "You won't catch any fish if you don't go fishing." Nearly 150 people were in custody by 10 August after raids and roadside operations checked more than 10,000 people and several thousand vehicles.

Five Islamic publications were banned and security forces were put on alert for attacks on mainland France after five French police and officials were killed in an assault on the French embassy in Algiers on 3 August.

Pasqua said that 17 suspected Algerian militants detained at Folembray in northern France were "mostly militant activists with direct links to the FIS and other fundamentalist movements". Three more detainees later joined them.

A war of nerves has broken out between the factions of the fundamentalists. The more moderate FIS has been in unofficial talks with the Zeroual government. But it has been hit by defections to the extremist GIA, responsible for the wave of terror against foreign residents in Algeria. Led by Ahmed Abou Abdallah, it is strong in Algiers and surrounding areas.

But the situation is complicated by the emergence of a new group, the Islamic Salvation Army (AIS), linked to FIS. This guerrilla group, led by Abdelkader Chebouti, is strong in the east, where it frequently confronts the Algerian army. Several AIS leaders have defected to the GIA, escalating the tension between the two groups.

National Transitional Council Debates Program

LD1008202794 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Excerpt] This afternoon the National Transitional Council's special session to discuss the government program was adjourned. Before that, Head of Government Mr. Mokdad Sifi delivered a short speech before the members of the council in which he revealed that a complementary project to the government program will be submitted to the members of the National Transitional Council either tomorrow or coming Saturday.

It is worth mentioning that the extraordinary session of the National Transitional Council is scheduled to be concluded 13 August with the endorsement of the government program.

This evening session concentrated basically on the question of the national dialogue. [passage omitted]

HAMAS Official on Transitional Period Program

LD1008233194 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] The National transitional Council's special session was adjourned this afternoon. This is the representative of the Movement for the Islamic Society, HAMAS, commenting on the Sifi government's program for the transitional period:

[Abdelhamid Nasser] The first comment we have on the program for the transitional period [words indistinct] Mr. Mokdad Sifi's government program is that it is a program which set goals or targets, endeavors, and intentions it wants to achieve them, but it clearly lacks any indication to figures or ways of reaching those goals. It is also short of any indication to the possible means of achieving those goals. We do not disagree with the goals set in the program either in the economic, educational, or in the social spheres, but it did not define the ways and the resources needed for achieving those goals. This is the most important comment we have on the program and that is why we asked the head of the government to provide, in his response, details on the sectors included in the program so that if the program was to be approved it should then be clear.

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The second comment is that the social sector is allocated a minor position in the government's program. We are concerned that the measures taken in Mr. Sifi's program, which included foreign obligations, would produce high and heavy bills for a large section of the Algerian people.

TV To Transmit to N. Africa, Europe Via Eutelsat

LD1008205594 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Within the framework of the government's work in the social and cultural field, which is concerned with the preoccupations of an important part of our society—the Algerian community living abroad—during the next few days the transmission network for Algerian programs will be expanded via the European satellite Eutelsat. The Algerian community in the Arab Maghreb and Europe will be able to receive Algerian programs provided by Eutelsat. Over to Berida Boutali.

[Berida] It is only a matter of days before Algerian television programs will be transmitted to cover Europe and North Africa. Algerian television programs will reach these countries via the European satellite Eutelsat following the completion of negotiations between Algerian television and Telecom Holland. The contract also provides for the expansion of the transmission network via the satellite for the three radio channels. This communications bridge will enable the Algerian community resident in Europe and the Maghreb to follow national programs.

This expansion of the transmission network will also provide another channel for connecting Mediterranean states with contemporary technology and will allow the mobilization of human potential to improve programs and increase production.

Correction to Kebir on Foreign Workers' Safety

BR0908131594

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Kebir: Foreigners' Safety Not Gurarantеed," published in the 8 August Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, page 28:

Page 29, column one, paragraph seven, first sentence make read ...we are still ready for negotiations... (deleting "not")

Egypt

UAE President Arrives on 3-Day Visit

NC1008154094 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1525 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Alexandria, 10 Aug (MENA)—United Arab Emirates [UAE] President Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan arrived in Alexandria this afternoon on a three-day visit to Egypt.

President Husni Mubarak led the officials that greeted him on arrival at the West Alexandria Airport.

Meets With Mubarak

NC1108132994 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, United Arab Emirates [UAE] president, held a summit meeting at Alexandria's al-Muntazah Palace this morning.

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif announced that the two leaders' discussions dealt chiefly with bilateral political, economic, and technical relations. They also reviewed their respective countries' positions on international, Arab, and Islamic issues in the context of the resolutions adopted by international, Arab, and Islamic organizations.

They also discussed the situation in the Arab region, the developments in the peace process, and the conditions in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Somalia.

They stressed their determination to clear up inter-Arab differences so that the Arab nation might preserve its security and coordinate its efforts to face the era's challenges and deal with the world's economic blocs.

Economically, the two leaders discussed the UAE's contributions to Egyptian business ventures and the two countries' joint investment projects in the fields of tourism, agriculture, and industry. They reviewed the results achieved by projects with a combined capital of approximately $2 billion.

President Mubarak and Shaykh Zayid conferred on several planned projects, the need to strenthen and complete existing projects, and on increasing tourist and agricultural investment.

President Mubarak issued instructions to extend all possible facilities to these prospective projects.

Al-Sharif added that President Mubarak and Shaykh Zayid gave instructions to begin cooperation in several new spheres including the Abu Qir Fertilizer project, the al-Nasr Petroleum Company plan, and the Luxor-based Golf Land project. They also decided to increase their cooperation in the Egyptian contracting companies operating in Abu Dhabi. These companies are involved in laying a water pipeline to al-'Ayn, building the Gulf Hotel, widening the Abu Dhabi-Dubai highway, constructing housing complexes and schools, and renovating medical treatment centers in Abu Dhabi City.

They also gave instructions to go ahead with the plan to build residential towns for UAE citizens living in Egypt and to allocate the necessary land for this purpose. They also approved a feasibility study on recycling sewage water for use in land reclamation projects in Egypt.

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The information minister said they reviewed the results of Egyptian-UAE cooperation in the fields of education, culture, and the media and the employment of Egyptian specialists and skilled workers in the UAE. He noted that these Egyptian nationals are appreciated and well treated by the UAE.

The information minister concluded his remarks by noting that President Mubarak and Shaykh Zayid's talks were fraternal, reflecting the mutually profound ties of respect between the two fraternal countries.

President Mubarak described Shaykh Zayid as a statesman who always embodies intrinsic, noble Arab values. He added that the Egyptian people respect and appreciate him.

Shaykh Zayid said President Mubarak is a first-rate statesman whose achievements and contributions to Egypt are beyond description. He pointed out that President Mubarak has devoted much effort and thought to the Arab nation's causes. He explained that it was these efforts that produced the successful peace steps that can safeguard the region's security and stability.

Mubarak, Lebanese Speaker Review Regional Issues

NC1008194494 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1730 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Tonight in Alexandria President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Nabih Birri, speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, who is currently visiting Egypt. People's Assembly Speaker Dr. Muhammad Fathi Surur attended the meeting.

Following the session, Birri said that he relayed to President Mubarak an oral message from his brother, Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi. Birri added that he and President Mubarak discussed Arab and Lebanese affairs in general and the Israeli attacks on south Lebanon in particular. President Mubarak has great love for Lebanon and wants to spare that country and its south any harm, the Lebanese official stated.

Speaker Birri said that he and President Mubarak discussed bilateral relations, focusing on trade in agricultural products. We agreed on the need to increase bilateral trade, Birri said.

The Lebanese speaker said that he and President Mubarak discussed Egypt's participation in the reconstruction of Lebanon as well as a Lebanese proposal to revive the Arab common market agreement.

Israel Urged To Back 'Rhetoric With Deeds'

NC1008163194 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1140 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Commentary by 'Atif 'Umar: "Are Rabin's Words at Odds With the Deeds of the Israeli Government?"]

[Text] As we observe the Middle East peace process plodding along and witness continued efforts by all sides to consign half a century of conflict to the past, we find some aspects of this conflict worth a pause.

For many years, Arabs balked at negotiating with Israel, a country that occupied their territory, snapping up large chunks of the Palestinian homeland. Israel, meanwhile, professed a desire to live peacefully amidst neighbors who outnumbered it.

The international powers were largely sympathetic to Israel's eloquently expressed cause. Israel received all the support it needed. Major powers even collaborated with it in its unjustified aggression against Egypt in 1956.

Years have gone by, and changes have occurred. The Arabs have made it clear that they want peace and are ready to work for it. International powers mediating between the Arabs and Israel became increasingly aware of this. Following a recent meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher stated that the Syrians expressed a genuine desire for peace based on the exchange of land for peace—endorsed at the Madrid conference—leading to a comprehensive, just, and final settlement. Syria, you may recall, is a country often accused of being hard-line. The Arabs, all of them, have been and still are interested in peace with Israel—a peace based on justice and legitimacy.

Despite the ill-advised practices of the Israeli occupation forces in the occupied territories and in the security strip on its border with Lebanon, Palestinian and Jordanian officials are still holding talks with the Israelis. However, the Arab-Israeli dialogue, a civilized affair, is threatened by the Israeli occupation forces' mounting contempt for the Arabs. The Israelis seem to entertain the notion that the Arabs want peace at any price. They cannot be more wrong.

The Arabs are tolerant, amicable, and peace-loving people. They are also brave, proud, and willing to make sacrifices. An Arab volcano of anger may erupt if the talks reach an impasse. The Arabs may conclude that Israel's appetite for Arab land is still insatiable. They may assume that Israel's purpose is simply to disrupt Arab solidarity, infiltrate Arab ranks, and foster new, more malleable, Arab entities.

Current developments on the Arab scene, the events in the occupied areas, and recent statements by Israeli prime minister Yitzhaq Rabin concerning the peace process offer an intriguing picture. Rabin has lately expressed an earnest desire to visit Damascus, Baghdad, and Amman. It is our belief that all Arab capitals would gladly play host to any Israeli official on one condition—that the Rabin Government back its rhetoric with deeds.

Aerial bombardment of south Lebanese villages on the pretext that Lebanese resistance fighters are hiding there is hardly compatible with Israel's glowing rhetoric of peace.

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We have not read anywhere that resistance against foreign occupation is an act of subversion, as Israel claims. The late French President Charles de Gaulle was a member of the French resistance. De Gaulle fought for his country when Nazi armies invaded Paris and was never accused by Germany of being a saboteur or an outlaw. He was never assigned any of the epithets the Israeli propaganda machine reserves for Lebanese resistance fighters, men who defend Lebanon's occupied south and have never threatened Israeli land or borders.

Arab and international efforts are afoot to settle the many substantial differences between the Arabs and Israel. Rabin may find this a chance to do what is right and assist the Arabs in their daring quest for peace.

Minister on 'Terrorism,' Muslim Brotherhood

NC1108111394 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 8 Aug 94 pp 10-15

[Interview with Interior Minister Hasan al-Alfi by the editorial staff at the magazine's offices in Cairo; date not given]

[Excerpts] [ROSE AL-YUSUF] Minister, while appreciating your great efforts, we always read in statements issued by various human rights organizations very alarming reports of torture inside Egyptian prisons against defendants in various terrorist cases. The so-called al-'Aqrab prison comes over worse than the Bastille.

First we want to know two things: How true are these reports and accusations and is the ministry issuing statements explaining the situation, or what is it doing to prove the opposite? The other thing we want to know is this: If there is such a way of dealing with this kind of defendant and if this is the repressive policy based on violations of basic human rights, does Your Excellency believe that this will help to liquidate or destroy terrorism in Egypt? We know that Egyptian intellectuals believe this way of dealing with things ultimately serves the terrorists and presents them as martyrs, etc. We want to debate this issue with you frankly.

[Al-Alfi] Security bodies are greatly slandered by the statements issued by human rights groups concerning torture. As a general principle, the use of violence or the violation of any person's human rights anywhere and at anytime is banned by the interior ministry and the state. This general principle exists in Egypt. Why have some people recently started to cry about human rights violations, torture, and killing, as some papers and human rights organizations are saying? This talk increased recently after the Interior Ministry gained the upper hand, seized control of the situation, and took the initiative in eliminating terrorism, liquidating and aborting operations, and arresting many defendants.

I raise the following: There was no talk of torture and such things when the terrorists were killing people, committing aggression, and exploding bombs in public places and streets. Every day someone was killed, be it a policeman or civilian. No one spoke about human rights then. But when we took the initiative of real confrontation, some organizations and the opposition papers began to say these things.

The results we have achieved answer your question.

We have foiled many acts and aborted many actions that were due to be carried out. Had we been liquidating or torturing, we would not have achieved the same results. There are many examples to show that the Interior Ministry's major principle is one of no excess and no violation of human rights. [passage omitted]

But this does not mean there are no excesses. These exist everywhere. We are not a society of angels. Those who violate are investigated, prosecuted, and tried. Some of them are in prison after being sentenced in some cases. Any excess by any person is rejected and he will be tried. If there are some excesses they are individual cases. Officers are reprimanded and punished. The cases are known and we have a list of them.

[ROSE AL-YUSUF] There is a lull in terrorist activity. And it is clear that the security men are in control. Is this clam temporary or is it the lull before the storm? Is it a guarded calm? To what extent can you, who are responsible for security in this country, assure us? Is there a change of plan by the police? How did we reach this state of calm? How did you infiltrate these organizations? And what is your assessment of the current situation? We are very pleased by this but we are also concerned.

[Al-Alfi] There is no doubt that there is a major change in the regime's policy and the Interior Ministry's strategy with regard to confronting crime in general and crimes of violence in particular. The various sectors of the ministry have been reorganized and the equipment modernized. This applies to all equipment and includes communications, transport, and the search for explosives. The technical methods used for combating crime have changed and the most advanced equipment has been obtained. The training method for officers, noncommissioned officers, and privates has also changed completely. They now receive serious, tough, and quality training. Some missions are sent abroad and technicians and experts have arrived from abroad to provide training. A quantum leap has been made in this field—reorganizing the ministry's various sectors, formulating strategy, and coordinating among all security sectors. Naturally we modernized weapons and equipment and information is now being gathered using the most updated computer systems from Egypt and abroad. Then we embarked on the infiltration and confrontation process. We arrested defendants involved in cases going back many years. There are unsolved cases and crimes in which no one has been arrested. [passage omitted]

The calm has resulted from our infiltration of their ranks and arrest of their leaders. We have uncovered all their actions. They have made several attempts recently to

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reorganize their ranks, using domestic and external contacts, but they were arrested. The leaders who were killed during arrests were replaced by new ones who were all apprehended. But this will not help us to sleep or rest, because the operations are continuing, attempts are still being made from abroad, and training and financing still exist. This makes us very alert and leads us to constantly develop the modernization and training process. But let me assure everybody that the initiative is now in our hands.

[ROSE AL-YUSUF] We notice a determination from abroad to strike at stability in Egypt. Groups are uncovered and members arrested but others are recruited and more organizations follow. It is clear that the process is very complicated. Could you tell us who is behind all this?

[Al-Alfi] These groups have their leaders abroad, who are behind them and who are known to everybody, names like Ayman al-Zawahiri, Mustafa Hamzah, Tal'at Qasim, al-Islambuli, and others. They travel worldwide and a very generous financier is behind them. They also have training sites in some countries. Naturally some countries have an interest in obstructing Egypt's progress, tourism, and development. They undoubtedly stand behind the terrorist leaders abroad, finance them, and help them, because they have a common goal, although they differ in everything.

[ROSE-AL-YUSUF] Have you brought back any leading cadres from abroad?

[Al-Alfi] We have brought back almost 30 people with the help of particular states.

[ROSE-AL-YUSUF] Some officers were assassinated in al-Minya a few days ago. Does this mean terrorism has returned?

[Al-Alfi] No, these are individual cases involving people who belong to the groups and who try to prove that they exist. You will find that the operations being conducted now are "trivial" and aim to cause a stir; they are not planned or organized operations and are not major. They see an officer going home, so they hit him and run. This is not the type of organization that frightens us. We dealt a major blow to the well-planned and organized organizations that conduct major operations.

[ROSE-AL-YUSUF] Do they not have organizations in Upper Egypt?

[Al-Alfi] In Upper Egypt there are some fugitives who take refuge in the mountains and big plantations. We are after them and are monitoring their moves on a daily basis. They fall daily. When this happens they try to recruit people for their lower ranks. But we are monitoring them very well.

[ROSE-AL-YUSUF] Is there a response to this recruitment?

[Al-Alfi] Not like before. Recruitment is very limited. They suffer from this. Their own words indicate that they are suffering a lack or shortage of recruits.

The situation has changed this year, because public opinion has changed since last year. During that period the crimes they committed—like killing innocent children, old people, or women—turned public opinion against them. A member of these groups appeared on television and exposed them. Many group members declared their repentance in prison. Many still want to repent. When we sent them people from al-Azhar, they realized that these groups were deceptive and saboteurs who have nothing to do with religion.

Some of the recruits were truly religious and wanted to join the groups for the sake of piety. But they found themselves up against gangs. All this turned public opinion against them; the public now supports us. That is why the recruitment process has become very difficult for them. Many citizens now come forward and supply us with information. This did not happen before.

[ROSE-AL-YUSUF] Without naming names, do Arab and other states provide finance for these groups?

[Al-Alfi] Yes. [passage omitted praising Egypt's handling of the organization of the International Conference on Population and Development]

[ROSE-AL-YUSUF] Are the outlets that were permanently open secure now?

[Al-Alfi] Yes, thank God.

[ROSE-AL-YUSUF] Let us return to the issue of terrorism, particularly the Muslim Brotherhood. Some time ago you described the Brotherhood as a relatively moderate and peaceful group. You later accused it of supporting terrorism one way or another.

This point relates to the televised interview with 'Adil 'Abd-al- Baqi, the first repentant. In that interview he said that Mukhtar Nuh provided finance to extremist group members and the families of detained members from alms funds.

[Al-Alfi] All their movements are known to us. If I made a statement when I came to office that was a tactic for security purposes. I sometimes say this to serve a particular security purpose that is later revealed. I will say no more.

What happened recently was that we apprehended some Brotherhood leaders. We have serious evidence. When they were referred to the prosecution, an independent judicial body, it renewed their remand. This means they are guilty. The other point is that the Brotherhood is a dissolved society; its existence is illegitimate and illegal. Besides, we are all Muslims. If they are talking in the name of Islam, in whose name are we talking? Must I join an Islamic association or organization? Are they the only Muslims? Are all others non-Muslims? We have 50

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million Muslims. Whoever violates legitimacy or breaks the law will be arrested, whoever he might be. All are under full control.

[ROSE-AL-YUSUF] Finance. Are there drug or money-smuggling operations financing Islamic groups in Egypt? Are these operations continuing. And do you have information on them?

[Al-Alfi] There are official institutions, Islamic banks and private associations and such things, that receive funds from abroad. These funds are used to finance the families of detainees or operations.

Yes, we have information. Some illegal things take place. Even robbery was used to finance terrorist operations. All these issues are currently under investigation. It is in the public interest not to reveal any details. But I can say that you are correct. [passage omitted]

[ROSE-AL-YUSUF] Many excesses were committed by officers in police stations, in spite of your clear instructions. These took many forms, like storming homes, assaulting citizens, and even torturing people.

[Al-Alfi] Do you know of a specific incident?

[ROSE-AL-YUSUF] This happened in al-Khankah. A human rights organization report cited an incident in which seven citizens from al-Jamaliyah were tortured by electric wire.

[Al-Alfi] It has always been my principle not to accept such conduct. But I notice that some reports are exaggerated or involve many falsities. Investigations then reveal something different. But if investigations prove excesses or errors, I show no leniency. I prescribe the severest punishment; I even pension off the person responsible. I spell it out: If excesses are proven in specific incidents you will see what will happen. I do not accept such things. If it is happening then they are isolated individual cases, not general.

[ROSE-AL-YUSUF] Are there contacts with other states to bring back Ayman al-Zawahiri, al-Islambuli, and other fugitive leaders from abroad? Can the state not reach these heads?

[Al-Alfi] Every state has its sovereignty. We cannot assault a state's sovereignty to apprehend someone. There must be agreements. Some states consider these fugitives political refugees, as is the case with Tal'at Qasim in Denmark.

[ROSE-AL-YUSUF] Are their activities being monitored?

[Al-Alfi] Yes. [passage omitted]

[ROSE AL-YUSUF] Frankly speaking, how many detainees are there in Egypt?

[Al-Alfi] Approximately 10,000.

[ROSE AL-YUSUF] Does the Interior Ministry have contacts with the families of the police martyrs or are they still the subject of care? How long? We want to be reassured about the sons of the martyrs who fell in recent operations.

[Al-Alfi] Rest assured. We are taking full care of them and paying considerable compensation to the families and sons of the martyred police officers and to the civilians who were hurt in acts of terror. The Interior Ministry gives them material and moral care.

[ROSE AL-YUSUF] Can we look at the defense minister's visit to Pakistan, which coincided with campaigns by the Pakistani police to arrest particular wanted men. There is public cooperation between Egypt and Pakistan. We would like to know why you yourself did not go to Pakistan. Did Pakistan hand over wanted men?

[Al-Alfi] Particular wanted members have been handed over and an agreement on this issue was signed with Pakistan recently. The defense minister's visit to Pakistan had nothing to do with this issue. The visit merely coincided with the signing of the agreement. An Interior Ministry delegation visited Pakistan and the agreement took effect this month.

[ROSE AL-YUSUF] What about Afghanistan?

[Al-Alfi] We are also trying regarding the issue with Afghanistan.

[ROSE AL-YUSUF] Does political security take precedence over criminal security?

[Al-Alfi] No. I fully believe that security is an indivisible whole. There is political, criminal, economic, and social security. All the police cadres are trained in these branches. It is unreasonable to focus on political security and ignore criminal security, because they are connected. Thefts of motorbikes, thefts from jewelry shops, and other crimes take place occasionally. These crimes are committed by particular individuals to be able to commit political crimes. We are working according to one integrated plan and in complete coordination among all the departments.

[ROSE AL-YUSUF] How long will the 10,000 detainees remain in jail?

[Al-Alfi] They are being interrogated by the Prosecution Office. We arrest no one unless he is an activist, a member of an organization. Every detainee was involved in some activity. For your information, the detainees involved in most cases, including those in the case in which I was involved [the trial following the attempt on al-Alfi's life], have been detained before. After their release, they tried to assassinate me. This shows that the detainees are dangerous individuals. The detainees currently in jail are activists, who, if released, would again commit crimes.

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Libya

Foreign Secretary on al-Kikhya, Lockerbie

MM1008122194 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 9 Aug 94 p 4

[Report on interview with 'Umar al-Muntasir, secretary of the General People's Committee for External Liaison and International Cooperation, by correspondent Ashraf al-Faqiyy in Cairo; date not given]

[Text] 'Umar al-Muntasir, secretary of the Libyan General People's Committee for External Liaison and International Cooperation, has stressed that the Egyptian security organs will be able to unravel the mystery of the disappearance of former Libyan Foreign Minister Mansur al-Kikhya in Cairo last December. In an interview with AL-HAYAH, he said that Libya would not object to the trial of the two Lockerbie bombing suspects anywhere they will accept.

Asked about the success of Egyptian-Libyan security coordination in solving the question of al-Kikhya's disappearance, al-Muntasir said: "We have complete faith in the Egyptian security authorities' ability to unravel the mystery of that case. I want here to reaffirm yet again that Libya had nothing to do whatsoever with al-Kikhya's disappearance."

As for whether or not Libya provided the Egyptian security authorities with relevant information, he said: "There is continuous exchange of information between the security authorities in the two countries. I assure you that Libya is looking forward to the return of Mansur, particularly as he is on good relations with all Libyan officials. Furthermore, the al-Muntasir and al-Kikhya families are related by marriage."

He said that the three Western states "are mocking world public opinion. If the aim is to establish the truth in the Lockerbie case, then they have to present the incriminating evidence to a neutral party to determine the position of the two Libyan suspects in relation to the charges made against them. Libya wants a fair trial for the suspects. It is not questioning American or Scottish justice, but our point is that the media atmosphere in the two countries in connection with that case precludes a fair trial on the territory of either of them."

He denied that the United States and Britain had made special "demands" in return for dropping the charges in the Lockerbie case. "We have complied with all the provisions of the Security Council resolution except the point relating to the venue of the trial. We have received no direct or indirect demands from the United States or Britain."

Asked what the Libyan position would be in the event of the failure of the Arab League's initiative calling for the trial of the suspects by Scottish judges at the International Court of Justice, al-Muntasir explained: "There is nothing we can do, particularly as the Libyan authorities do not have the right to hand over the suspects to anyone. That is what the Libyan people's congresses have emphasized in this connection, supporting the trial of the suspects anywhere in the world they are willing to go; they refuse to go to the United States or Britain but have expressed willingness to stand trial by any court outside those two states."

He confirmed that the bill of indictment in the Lockerbie case only includes the names of al-Amin Khalifah Fahimah and 'Abd-al-Basit al-Miqrahi. He said that the Arab League's proposal calling for the trial of the suspects by Scottish judges at the International Court of Justice "is a positive proposal. President Husni Mubarak in particular and Egyptian diplomacy in general played an effective part in this connection. We do not forget that Egypt played a major part in explaining Libya's position to the OAU, the Nonaligned Movement, and the Islamic Conference."

Asked if Egypt had been successful in obtaining any guarantees regarding the trial, he replied: "We did not ask for any guarantees. We are sure that they would be acquitted. All we want is a fair trial in any neutral country without any conditions."

He denied the "collapse of the Libyan economy." He said that the increase in prices "is linked to higher prices worldwide, the inflation rate, and the increasing cost of imports. As regards the fluctuation in the value of the dinar, that is a result of black market speculation, which is illegal and has nothing to do with the real economic situation. The official rate of the dinar has not changed."

Had Libya succeeded in shaking the U.S.-French-British alliance? He replied: "All Libyan efforts in this connection have failed, because of the U.S. control of the United Nations." He said that the time element could contribute to finding a way out of the crisis, and that "I imagine that the seriousness of the Libyan position about a trial and the international support for that position will ultimately lead to the acceptance by the Western states concerned of the proposed initiatives."

What was the truth about U.S. companies applying to prospect for oil in Libya? He replied: "Libya does not have a blacklist and a white list. It welcomes U.S. oil companies. Some of them have submitted applications for prospecting and exploration through their European branches."

Tunisia

Ennahda Figure Resigns Over Leadership 'Mistakes'

MM1008151494 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 9 Aug 94 p 4

[Report by Kamil al-Tawil: "'Moderates' in Ennahda: New Official Resigns"]

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[Text] London—A leading figure in the Tunisian Ennahda movement announced his resignation on Sunday [7 August]. He attacked its leadership and expected an imminent "end" for the officially outlawed party.

The resignation of the leading figure Fouad Mansour Kacem is the second move within a month against the movement's leadership headed by Cheikh Rachid Ghanouchi. Last month Lazhar Ebaab, former official in the Ennahda office in Paris, addressed an "open letter" to the movement's leadership, criticizing it and citing mistakes made by it.

Tunisian Islamic sources expect these criticisms to prepare for a move to be launched by elements opposed to Cheikh Ghanouchi's leadership to arrange some kind of agreement with the government of President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali to determine the nature of "Islamic action" on the Tunisian scene after the confrontation between the authorities and the Ennahda leadership. The sources told AL-HAYAH that the nature of the move is not known yet, nor is the shape of the agreement that could be reached with Tunisian authorities. However, the sources pointed to attempts being made to secure an agreement among leading figures in the Ennahda who do not agree with the views of its leadership.

The sources said that those opposed to Ghanouchi among Ennahda's ranks hold him responsible for the situation the movement is experiencing after the confrontation with the Tunisian regime, which put hundreds of Ennahda members in prison and forced others to seek refuge abroad.

The sources added that these opponents blame Ghanouchi for focusing on "personalizing" the conflict with the Tunisian leadership. And that they are discontent at the "militant tendency's" influence among the movement's ranks. And that they hold him responsible for making the Ennahda look as though it has "two voices": one openly advocating democracy and calling for using peaceful means in political action, and another secretly seeking to undermine democracy and to try to reach power through acts of violence. Those opposed to the movement's current leadership do not seem to be agreed on the policy that should be pursued vis-a-vis the situation inside Tunisia. Because some of them believe that reconciliation with Tunisian authorities is possible if Ennahda's leadership is changed. While another tendency—and most probably it represents a majority—believes that what is required is to disband the movement completely.

It is unknown how much support Ghanouchi's opponents enjoy inside the Ennahda. However, it is clear that there is a tendency inside the movement which cannot be overlooked and which believes that the crisis with the Tunisian regime should be resolved through dialogue, not violence and confrontation. And it does not seem that Tunisian Islamists are agreed on ways of dealing with the regime. While the moderates among them are seeking a peaceful solution with the authorities and criticize the "extremism" of the movement's current leadership, the latter finds itself facing a "very hard-line" tendency seeking to overthrow the regime by force. This hard-line tendency was announced before the establishment of an independent party called the "Islamic Salvation Front" in Tunis.

Fouad Kacem attributed his resignation from the Ennahda to a series of mistakes he said the leadership committed. In a statement, a copy of which AL-HAYAH has received, he listed his criticisms of the movement. He said that it "lacks a clear program," and "it does not announce what it conceals." And "force (in it) is given precedence over reason, so action precedes thought." He also pointed out that the "leader is displaying arrogance through imaginary, inflammatory, irresponsible, and unrealistic speeches that are going to lead to sinister consequences" and to "the formation of pockets inside the party." He said that the "party's hour has struck and its end is approaching. (So) resignation from it is a duty and the call for it is commended and desired." Kacem was a member of the Ennahda political bureau abroad. He contested the 1989 elections for the capital, Tunis.

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Kuwait

Defense Minister, U.S. Naval Chief on Cooperation

LD1008192894 Kuwait KSC Television in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Defense Minister Shaykh Ahmad al-Hamud al-Jabir al-Sabah this morning met the commander of the U.S. Central Naval Forces, Admiral (Douglas Cutts) and his accompanying delegation. They discussed ways of strengthening military cooperation between the two friendly countries. Kuwait's U.S. Ambassador Ryan Crocker attended the meeting.

Ambassador on POW's, Reconciliation With Iraq

NC0608122294 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 2 Aug 94 p 6

[Interview with Ambassador to Egypt 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Bu'ayjan by correspondent Amin Muhammad Amin in Cairo; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Al-Bu'ayjan] Kuwait is a small country with a small population compared to neighboring states. It is in our interest to live in peace with the people of the region. We believe that relations among the peoples of the region will continue and that future cooperation will be governed by future changes, primarily the people's need to feel secure from the Iraqi regime, which must change its conduct. [passage omitted]

When it comes to the issue of POW's, the Kuwaiti people, as I said before, are a small people linked closely by family ties. The issue is raised day after day and the people are putting pressure on the government and their deputies to tell them where their sons are. Those persons have not been killed; they were taken from their homes. The Iraqi intelligence left behind some documents proving that they were arrested. Hence the POW issue is documented; the papers specify the date of arrest. They were moved from one jail to another in Iraq. Documents show that they exist; they are not missing. They are women, children, and old people who were taken hostages. It is unethical to take hostages. If you are dealing with a modern system, you have to break free from these tribal practices. [passage omitted]

[Amin] Some are calling for a direct dialogue between Kuwait and Iraq on the basis of good neighborliness and unity among Arabs, instead of involving a foreign mediator.

[Al-Bu'ayjan] This is tantamount to circumventing UN resolutions and evading Iraq's responsibility. Everybody knows that Kuwait met with the Iraqis in Saudi Arabia before the invasion and that President Mubarak obtained a pledge from Saddam that he would not invade Kuwait. Then what happened? Credibility does not exist. We are a small state that wants to live in peace. He wants to meet with us alone outside the United Nations, thinking that we would accept his proposals. He would then tell the United Nations that he agreed with us and that the UN resolutions should be revoked. This shows the depth of the Iraqi people's tragedy; their leadership refuses to see things from a modern, scientific perspective.

[Amin] There are several hot beds around the world, for which the United Nations fails to provide protection. How far can the United Nations protect Kuwait against another Iraqi trickery?

[Al-Bu'ayjan] Where does Arab reconciliation stand at present? Look at the peace process and the Arab and international efforts being contributed to it. Do you see a united Arab stance on an issue as clear as the peace issue that has taken years? There is a lot of good theoretical talk, but reality is different. We hope to see a more effective Arab action that compels the wrongdoer to admit his mistake and undo the damage he has done. Beating around the bush only led the Arabs to what you see now. Do we go back to the flattery technique?

Look here and there; you will find that reconciliation will not come about through a meeting between Iraq and Kuwait, particularly when credibility is lacking. We are in a situation that needs a new approach at the Arab level.

We help the Iraqi people and sympathize with them. We helped those who took refuge in Kuwait. We extended support to them and did not take a hostile stance on their case.

[Amin] Do you support the Iraqi opposition?

[Al-Bu'ayjan] We do not support the Iraqi opposition and we have no connection with it. We do not interfere in Iraq's affairs. We have no objection to receiving or hearing them, but we do not help topple a regime.

[Amin] Has the border tunnel prevented Iraqi infiltration into Kuwait?

[Al-Bu'ayjan] Completely.

[Amin] The joint military agreements, can they provide protection and security for Kuwait?

[Al-Bu'ayjan] Yes. Until we find an Arab alternative, we cannot think of anything else. If a capable Arab alternative is provided, you will see that the entire Arab world will change.

[Amin] The Peninsula Shield troops, are they not sufficient for defense?

[Al-Bu'ayjan] Iraq invaded us when the Peninsula Shield troops were there. [passage omitted]

Oman

Bin-'Abdallah Welcomes Jordan-Israel Accord

JN1008122394 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0930 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Muscat, 10 Aug (WAKH)—The Sultanate of Oman has welcomed the accord reached between Israel

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and Jordan with U.S. help. In a statement to the OMANI NEWS AGENCY, Yusuf Bin-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, said that the Sultanate of Oman supports the accord because it is considered an advanced step toward achieving a comprehensive solution to the Middle East issue.

At the same time, the Omani minister of state called on Israel to exert greater efforts to achieve a practical and real breakthrough on the Syrian and Lebanese track to achieve a comprehensive and lasting peace. He stressed that without achieving a breakthrough on the Syrian-Israeli track and the Lebanese-Israeli track, peace in the Middle East will be incomplete and the region will remain in a state of instability.

Concluding his statement, Yusuf Bin-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah expressed his full satisfaction with the trends and talks Syria is holding with the (?American) side with the aim of achieving peace. He described this stage as important and called on the Arabs to maintain solidarity.

Radio Notes Official Support

JN1008140694 Muscat Radio Oman Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] The Sultanate of Oman has welcomed the agreement reached between Jordan and Israel with the United States' assistance.

In a statement to the OMANI NEWS AGENCY, His Excellency Yusuf Bin-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, said that the Sultanate supports the agreement because it is an advanced step within the framework of a comprehensive solution to the Middle East issue.

At the same time, his excellency called on Israel to exert more efforts to achieve a practical and real breakthrough on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks to achieve a comprehensive and durable peace. He stressed that without a breakthrough on the Syrian-Israeli and Lebanese-Israeli tracks, peace in the Middle East will be incomplete and the region will remain in a state of instability.

Concluding his statement, his excellency expressed his full satisfaction with the trends and negotiations Syria is holding with the American side on the issue of achieving peace. He described this stage as important and called on the Arabs to maintain solidarity.

Saudi Arabia

UAE President Departs After Official Visit

LD1008195894 Riyadh SPA in English 1914 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Jeddah, Aug 10, SPA—Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, the president of the United Arab Emirates, left here today at the end of an official visit to the Kingdom during which he met the custodian of the two holy mosques King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz.

Shaykh Zayid was seen off at King 'Abd-al-'Aziz International Airport by Crown Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the deputy premier and commander of the national guard, Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the second deputy premier, defence and aviation minister and inspector general, Prince 'Abd-al-Rahman Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the deputy defence and aviation minister and inspector general, and Prince Majid Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the governor of the Mecca region.

Sends Cable Thanking King Fahd

LD1008200494 Riyadh SPA in English 1924 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Jeddah, Aug 10, SPA—Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz received here today a cable from the President of United Arab Emirates Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, thanking the Saudi monarch for the warm hospitality extended to him and his accompanying delegation during the visit to the kingdom.

Shaykh Zayid also expressed satisfaction over the identical views held by him and King Fahd on the issues that came up for discussion during the visit.

The UAE president praised the Kingdom's great accomplishments under the wise leadership of the custodian of the two holy mosques.

In a reply cable, King Fahd thanked Shaykh Zayid for his kind feelings and commended the outcome of the UAE leader's visit to Saudi Arabia during which, the monarch said they exchanged views on a number of issues of common interest for the benefit of both Arab and Islamic states in the present and future.

King Fahd also wished Shaykh Zayid good health and the UAE people progress and welfare.

Saudi Islamic Opposition Opens London Office

MM1008153094 London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI in Arabic 8 Aug 94 p 1

[Text] London, AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI—The Saudi Islamic opposition "Advice and Reform Commission" headed by Shaykh Usamah Bin-Ladin has announced the opening of an office in London.

The commission said in a statement signed by Shaykh Bin-Ladin that the commission's shura council held a meeting last Monday [1 August] and decided to open the office in question and to appoint Khalid Bin-'Abd-al-Rahman al-Fawwaz as its director.

It added that the opening of the office in London came in response to "the desire to expand the commission's activities and to facilitate contacts with it in order to receive correspondence and complaints." The statement, a copy of which AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI has received, did

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not say where the commission's shura council met. It bore an address for the London office and two numbers: a telephone number and a fax number.

Yemen

Salih, U.S. Envoy Discuss Ties, Cooperation

JN1008145694 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Presidential Council chairman, today received U.S. Ambassador Arthur Hughes. Discussions dealt with a number of issues related to bilateral relations and cooperation between the two friendly countries.

The U.S. ambassador reiterated U.S. support for Yemeni unity and democratization. He praised our country's steps to hold a national dialogue and the implementation of the general amnesty law to remove the effects of the war. He stressed the United States' interest in bolstering and promoting bilateral relations and expanding bilateral cooperation.

The brother chairman of the Presidential Council praised the United States' support for unity and democratization and help for our country to overcome the effects of the war. He said that Yemeni-U.S. relations are witnessing continued progress in the interest of the two friendly countries. He noted that having crushed the rebellion, our country is about to start a new phase of reconstruction based on enhancing the democratic process, pluralism, respect for the freedom of expression, human rights, and bolstering security and stability to achieve comprehensive development and to encourage national, Arab, and foreign investment. He said our country is determined to provide all guarantees and opportunities for investment, particularly for oil companies, in a manner that achieves mutual benefits and builds the national economy on firm foundations that ensure prosperity in Yemen and serves everybody's interests. He reiterated the Republic of Yemen's eagerness to promote its relations with all brothers and friends on the bases of common interests, mutual respect, and noninterference in domestic affairs. He said that Yemen will do everything possible to promote regional security, stability, and peace.

YSP Hints at Leadership, Party Program Changes

MM1108132394 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 11 Aug 94 pp 1, 4

[Report by Ibrahim Humaydi in Damascus and Iqbal 'Abdallah in Aden: "Socialist Party Paves Way for al-Bid's Dismissal; Aden's Leadership Prepares for Elections"]

[Excerpt] Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP], has dropped a hint about the possible dismissal of YSP Secretary General 'Ali Salim al-Bid. He told AL-HAYAH that priority is given to the YSP's future. He called for change "of some leaderships" and of the party's program and also called for admission of "defeat."

Meanwhile, the YSP leadership in Aden has issued a statement condemning the secession decision announced by al-Bid during the war. It announced that a general party congress would convene soon to elect a new leadership and that the preparatory committee has suspended all the powers of the YSP's Political Bureau and Central Committee and stressed that the secession leaders should stand trial. Salim Salih, however, who renewed commitment to the Pledge and Accord Document for the achievement of a "reconciliation" in Yemen, said that the statement of the party's leadership in Aden was "illegal," and accused the intelligence organs in Sanaa of being behind that statement.

The YSP leaders meeting in Damascus have drawn up broad outlines for the reorganization of the party providing for the return of some leaders to Yemen to work internally in accordance with the Pledge and Accord Document, with the possibility of "disappearance" of al-Bid, who is now in the Sultanate of Oman, from the party's leadership. Salim Salih Muhammad told AL-HAYAH that the priority at this stage is "for the party's future. Al-Bid led the party for a period of time, but this is not the main issue now." He stressed that the YSP must find "effective leadership, with some of us perhaps retiring from political life. Some of us may be incapable of playing any political part." He added that "life inside Yemen can produce figures capable of continuing the required role." He urged the YSP leaders to admit "defeat" and he called for the "change of some leaderships" and of the party's program. [passage omitted]

Committee Suspends al-Bid, Aides

JN1008204594 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] A Higher Preparatory Committee formed by prominent leaders of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] today decided to suspend the powers of the YSP Political Bureau members, the YSP Central Committee members, former YSP Secretary General 'Ali Salim al-Bid, and his assistant Salim Salih Muhammad. The aforesaid were prevented from taking any partisan or political measures.

A statement issued by the Higher Preparatory Committee signed by 28 leaders representing the YSP secretariats in Yemeni governorates said that the suspension decision was made because the aforesaid were found to be responsible for the bloody events recently seen in Yemen.

The committee also decided to suspend the right to dispose of the YSP funds and property. Efforts will be

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made to regain these funds and property in order to place them at the disposal of the preparatory committee.

The statement demanded the trial of all those who were involved in carrying out the secession plot.

YSP Political Bureau Members Conclude Meetings

JN1008204094 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Report by Sana' al-Imam from Damascus]

[Text] The Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Political Bureau meetings were concluded in Damascus today. The final statement will be issued later tonight or tomorrow morning.

The meetings were characterized by two major points: The first is that the conferees did not agree on an immediate return to Yemen. This return was supported by some members and rejected by others.

YSP Assistant Secretary General Salim Salih Muhammad said: We will return, but each one according to his own circumstances.

Sources at the meeting said that the YSP members call on President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to give them guarantees for their return. Among these guarantees is to resume their party activities.

The Yemeni president had sent verbal guarantees with Fadl Muhsin 'Abdallah, minister of fish resources. Planning and Development Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani had also carried guarantees from President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to the effect that each YSP member shall reassume his political post and maintain his privileges.

The second point which characterized the meetings was the possibility of 'Ali Salim al-Bid's stepping down. A Yemeni source said that each one should assume responsibility for what had happened in accordance with the size of the task he assumed. The source said: We are all responsible, but 'Ali Salim al-Bid should assume the biggest part of this responsibility.

Answering a question by Radio Monte Carlo on why al-Bid did not take part in the Damascus meetings, YSP Assistant Secretary General Salim Salih Muhammad said: We are guests in Damascus, and we are trying to work based on our respect for the the laws of others and taking their circumstances into consideration.

In an exclusive statement to Radio Monte Carlo, Salim Salih Muhammad said that one of the main reasons for the war was the attempt to undermine the YSP and end its role. He added that this is difficult if Yemen is wanted to experience a certain political state of affairs and to avoid further wars, especially since the regional map has not taken its final shape, as he put it.

The YSP assistant secretary general added: We are planning to draft our future policy in light of the new state of affairs. This necessitates that we change our political program and structure, leadership, and struggle methods based on democracy, party pluralism, and the pledge and accord document which was signed in Amman in February.

Muhammad Comments on Meeting

NC1008193294 London MBC Television in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] The Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] has called on the Sanaa government for a comprehensive national reconciliation without preconditions and with the participation of all Yemen's political forces.

At the conclusion of a meeting of the YSP Political Bureau in Damascus today, the YSP rejected Sanaa's conditions for returning to Yemen. Our correspondent in Damascus Salwa Sabri reports:

[Begin recording] [Sabri] The YSP leaders concluded their three-day meeting in Damascus by calling for turning a new page in national reconciliation, containing the consequences of the war, and changing the YSP structure. They also called for drawing up a new plan for political action based on the Pledge and Accord Document, which constitutes the lowest possible common denominator between all the parties that approved it, in order to build a new Yemen.

[Salim Salih Muhammad, YSP assistant secretary general] Following deep discussions and diverse debates in the past few days, we reached a common concept for the leaders inside and outside the country. The most important points deal with the war, which we condemn together with the repercussions that followed secession. The concept also condemns the ugly practices in Aden, specifically in al-Mukalla, and in the southern areas. It also calls for national reconciliation based on the Pledge and Accord Document. The concept envisions future action within the framework of democracy and a normal and stable political, economic, and social life.

[Sabri] Will there be a change soon in the YSP's political structure?

[Muhammad] There is a review. We will review our programs, the terminology, our actions. The war has given us an outcome, laws, and lessons from which we must benefit so that we can go on with life.

[Sabri] YSP Assistant Secretary General Salim Salih Muhammad also said that he telephoned 'Ali Salim al-Bid this morning and asked him to resume his political work in the YSP. [end recording]

'National Front' To Seek 'Liberation' of South

MM1108101494 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 10 Aug 94 pp1, 4

[Report by Iqbal 'Ali 'Abdallah in Aden and Ibrahim Humaydi in Damascus: "Salim Salih Muhammad Tells AL-HAYAH: We Are in Agreement About Returning to Yemen"]

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[Excerpt] Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP], has told AL-HAYAH that all the party leaders meeting in Damascus have agreed to return to Yemen and that the "disagreement is about the timing." He added that "there must be work from within [Yemen] and there must be understanding of the new regional map." He said that the final meeting of the YSP leaders is to be held in Damascus today. He noted that the party "did receive some blows but it will remain close to the people." He added that the purpose of the meeting is "to draw conclusions and define the political line and the partisan course" of the YSP.

In London, AL-HAYAH has received a statement signed by "the National Front for the Liberation of the Arab South" [NFLAS] which has issued its first publication called "Hadhramaut," carrying the headline "dissolution of the YSP in the Arab south and trial of the fleeing leaders." The statement said that on 5 August, the NFLAS declared in al-Mukalla, capital of the governorate of Hadhramaut, that it would seek "the liberation of the Arab south from the Yemeni occupation and the control of the YSP which, throughout its black history, has been the cause of all the catastrophes afflicting our people since 1967." It referred to "the escape of the cowardly socialists headed by 'Ali Salim al-Bid who will be held accountable by our people for the catastrophe he caused the country after fleeing with his aides, leaving the southern army to fight without leadership or equipment.... and leaving the people to face the Yemeni Army." The statement warned against any dealing with "the cowardly socialist leaders."

It also emphasized the need for the withdrawal of the "Yemeni brothers" from "all the territory of the Arab south.... before the NFLAS decides to resort to armed resistance against the Yemeni presence." It threatened to use "all legitimate rights under international law and tribal tradition to liberate the occupied territory." It added that the "NFLAS's decision to dissolve the YSP and all other past political organizations in the Arab south is in line with the will of the people of the south and the will of the southern tribes which have joined the NFLAS to rearrange the political situation in all the provinces of the Arab south."

The YSP leaders yesterday resumed their meetings in Damascus. [passage omitted]

Civilian Aircraft Denied Use of Saudi Airspace

JN1008175394 Baghdad INA in English 1530 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Sanaa, Aug. 10, INA—The Saudi authorities were reported to have banned a Yemeni civilian aircraft from flying into the Saudi airspace today.

A Yemeni official source expressed astonishment over the Saudi measure and said that Saudi authorities did not give any reason for their measure.

The Yemeni aircraft was on the first trip to the outside world following the cessation of the two-month hostilities in the country last July.

Iraqi Information Ministry Official Leaves Sanaa

JN1008150994 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Excerpt] Naji al-Hadithi, under secretary of the Culture and Information Ministry in fraternal Iraq, left Sanaa today following a working visit of several days to our country. [passage omitted]

House Discusses Laws, Filling Vacant Seats

JN1008150894 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Excerpts] The House of Representatives held a session this morning under the chairmanship of Speaker Shaykh 'Abdallah Bin-Husayn al-Ahmar. At the beginning of the session, the House reviewed the issue of the two vacant House seats, which were occupied by late member [name indistinct], representative of Election Constituency 78, and by martyr member Muhsin 'Ali 'Abdallah Khalid, representative of Election Constituency 241. The House asked the Higher Elections Committee to prepare for elections in both constituencies in accordance with the provisions of Article 61 of the Constitution. [passage omitted]

The House then heard a supplementary report presented by the House's Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee on certain articles and paragraphs of Article 61, which were the subject of observation by the brother deputies. The House also discussed a draft law on measures against and the trial of senior state officials, especially paragraphs pertaining to what is viewed as a high treason, a breach of the Constitution, acts harming the country's sovereignty and independence, and any other acts of disgrace such as [word indistinct], appropriation of public money, embezzlement, and abuse of an official post. [passage omitted]

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Minister Attacks Jordanian Peace Process Remarks

JN1108080294 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0735 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Aug (INA)—Culture and Information Minister Hamid Yusuf Hammadi has expressed his astonishment and regret over the statements made by Jordanian Information Minister Jawad al-'Anani, who accorded himself the right to mention Iraq by name in connection with the so-called peace negotiations.

In a statement to the Iraqi News Agency today, Hammadi said Iraq's position on this entire issue is clear and known. No one has the right to speak on behalf of Iraq or extend to us invitations we do not desire, he added.

Hammadi asserted that Iraq will determine its own position on pan-Arab issues.

In a statement to the Zionist enemy's radio on Saturday [6 August], Jordanian Information Minister Jawad al-'Anani said Iraq can play an important role in the so-called peace negotiations.

'Aziz Confers With Jordanian Party Delegation

JN1008161094 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1440 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Aug (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, official in charge of the Foreign Relations Bureau of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, today received a delegation of the Jordanian Pan-Arab Action Front Party headed by Muhammad al-Zu'bi, the party's secretary general.

During the meeting, they discussed the ties between the two parties and the means of promoting them in the interest of the two fraternal countries' national and pan-Arab causes.

Tariq 'Aziz touched on the developments in the relationship between Iraq and the UN Security Council [UNSC], noting that the accomplishments made thus far require the UNSC to fulfill its obligations toward the Iraqi people by lifting the unfair sanctions clamped on them.

'Aziz urged the Arab national and pan-Arab parties and forces to play an effective role in this regard by urging the international community to demand an end to the inhuman situation created by the continuation of the unfair embargo. He reiterated that pan-Arab necessity requires adherence to the national and pan-Arab constants, regardless of the difficult circumstances surrounding the Arab nation.

For his part, Muhammad al-Zu'bi said that his party appreciates the steadfastness demonstrated by the Iraqi people and leadership in the face of the unfair sanctions. He reiterated the solidarity of the fraternal Jordanian people, including all their parties and factions, with Iraq.

'Aziz Receives British LDP Delegation

JN1008204794 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Aug (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, official in charge of the Foreign Relations Bureau of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, has received David Steele, official in charge of foreign relations in the British Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], and his delegation.

The meeting was attended by the head of the Foreign Relations Bureau of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

Israeli, U.S. Aims Behind Peace Moves Viewed

JN1008155294 Baghdad BABIL in Arabic 1 Aug 94 p 2

[Article by Mazhar 'Arif: "The Future War"]

[Text] There will come a time when the foreigner's agents themselves will feel the enormity of the crime which they have committed by instigating the strike against Iraq and participating in the military and economic aggression against it. They will do so when all of Israel's aims which are backed by Washington and the West become clear, since Israel seeks to turn their countries into economic and political colonies and their citizens into governed subjects in their own homelands and slaves in Greater Israel from the Euphrates to the Nile in the biggest revenge act in history against everything that has anything to do with the Arabs, their culture, and history. How stupid these agents are. They barely know the color of the sky from sheer bowing to the enemy. Prompted by their hatred of Iraq and the Iraqis, they have even adopted the dirty capitalist theory which says: There is no lasting hostility or lasting friendship, only lasting interests. They think friendship with Tel Aviv will be lasting. In the opinion of those who came out from the bowels of history in order to take revenge of the Arabs and Muslims, lasting historical hostility has stopped at the gates of Iraq and the memory of [Jewish] Babylonian captivity and the fate of [the Jewish] Bani Qa'naqa' and Khaybar tribes in Yathrib [ancient name of Medina] have been vindicated by the destruction of Iraqi weapons and the Iraqi economy in the context of the new cooperation between so-called Arab and Jewish "cousins" and the inter-marriage of Arab capital with Israel's imported sophisticated technology. As for lasting interests, the near future will prove—and the first signs are already evident—what type of interests they are and in whose favor they will be in the end, the so-called Arabs or the Israelis.

According to recent reports from Washington, the United States has approved supplying the Zionist entity with more up-to-date F-16 aircraft. Is there any justification for the continuous U.S. support for the Israeli war machine after Camp David, Arab-Zionist normalization, the self-rule protectorate, the Jordanian-Israeli agreement, and the race between Arabs from far and near to book a seat on the settlement train? The answer is, of course no. Nevertheless, the word of the United States has remained dominant, deciding many issues, both the declared and the undeclared ones which are taking place under the surface. In the viewpoint of the United States, the continuous military aid to Israel strengthens Zionism's military superiority and the Middle East settlement. As far as we are concerned, we have not heard a

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single party to the Middle East settlement asking the Americans, even out of personal curiosity, about the reason for Israeli military superiority after all that the Arabs have done and are willing to do for Tel Aviv. In this settlement, everything was demanded of Arab officials and hardly anything significant of Israel. It was as if the United States and Israel were doing the Arabs a favor. What a humiliation; weapons and superiority for Israel and promises and lip service for the Arabs. We hardly need mention that peace such as the one they are seeking is not achieved by the superiority of one side over another, but by a balance of power. This has not happened and is not destined to happen in the future. Therefore, this settlement will not achieve the peace after which the vanquished Arabs are panting, but will lead to war. U.S.-Zionist logic symbolizes terrorism in all its details.

Meanwhile, the continuous Israeli war preparations under the cover of the settlement aim at realizing the slogan of Greater Israel whether those involved in the settlement like it or not. Israel does not fear the pawns on the U.S. chess board, but the Arab masses and the independent Arab governments. Therefore, the war will continue to exist in the future.

Our words are not based on palmistry or fortune-telling. In fact, everything that we say can be seen in the events taking place on the ground of reality. It is a shifty reality, which is backed by Israeli stands and statements which have not stopped since the beginning of the settlement and which have moved in all directions toward direct or indirect Arab negotiators backed by a band of supporters and frontline dignitaries, as the popular saying goes.

UINC's al-Jalabi Speaks on Opposition Activities

MM1108101294 London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI in Arabic 8 Aug 94 p 4

[Text] London, AL-QUDS AL-ARABI—Dr. Ahmad al-Jalabi, chairman of the Executive Council of the (opposition) Unified Iraqi National Congress [UINC], has stressed that the Turkish Government urged Kurdish officials to hold negotiations with the regime in Baghdad, and that it pledged to guarantee the implementation of any agreement reached in this connection.

Dr. al-Jalabi was delivering a political lecture he held the evening of the day before yesterday in a central London hotel. He reviewed the deterioration in security and economic conditions in Iraq. He spoke about the congress' opposition activities against the regime, especially in the spheres of leaflet distribution and television and radio transmission from Kurdistan.

He said that regional and international states are refusing to recognize the institutions of the present Kurdish entity, namely the parliament and the government. They are insisting on dealing with the Kurdish parties as separate parties, each with its own legal capacity.

Dr. al-Jalabi expressed his disappointment in some European states, especially France and Russia, as well as Turkey, which are urging the Kurds to negotiate with the regime and seeking to ease the embargo imposed on Iraq.

He attributed the positions of these states to the fact that they feel bitter because the United States has gotten the lion's share with regard to rebuilding Kuwait and the arms deals with the Gulf states, in addition to the desire of some of them, like Russia, to lift the embargo in order to recover the debts owed by Iraq.

Dr. al-Jalabi said that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn obtained sums of money for the sale of large quantities of oil smuggled to Turkey and other states. He added that he [Saddam] spends half of these sums on buying food commodities which the government subsidizes through [ration] cards. As for the other half, it is spent on developing Iraq's military capabilities.

He pointed out that there is a race between the collapse of the internal situation and the attempt to lift the embargo. He said that the hope of a military coup occurring in Iraq is now very difficult. At any rate, the congress does not believe in military coups. Nor is it for a dialogue with the regime, because dialogue prolongs its life.

He stressed that the United States is for toppling Saddam, but it is not prepared to get involved militarily for the sake of that.

He attributed the failure to convene the congress' general assembly to the fact that convening it costs $600,000, and it is more proper to spend this money on other activities.

When he was asked about sources of finance, he declined to answer, saying: Why do you ask about the Iraqi parties' and the PLO's sources of finance?

Replying to the accusation that it [the Iraqi opposition] is relying on the foreign factor to topple the regime, he said that the congress is relying on Iraq's sons, and that the United States is a friendly state, so why should it not be relied on?

He also said that the United States offered statements supporting democracy in Iraq and recognizing Iraq's rights. He added that Israel obtained a weak declaration, namely the Balfour declaration, on which it has built a great deal.

Asked why the National Congress has not had any tangible achievements so far, Dr. al-Jalabi said that the traditional Iraqi opposition struggled for over 20 years in the past, so what did it achieve? He said that the National Congress is only three years old.

Observers noted the attendance of large numbers of members of the National Congress, the Iraqi Communist Party, and the Kurdish parties. While prominent National Congress members like Shaykh Muhammad

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Bahr-al-'Ulum and Hasan al-Naqib did not attend, despite their being in Britain.

Everyone was searched with special devices at the entrance to ensure participants were not carrying any weapons—which is the first time this has happened at Iraqi opposition meetings.

KDP Blames Islamic Movement for Renewed Fighting

MM1008102294 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 9 Aug 94 p 6

[Report by Kamran Qurrah Daghi: "Barzani's Party Holds Islamic Movement Responsible for Fighting in Kurdistan"]

[Excerpt] London—A spokesman for the Kurdistan Democratic Party [KDP] led by Mas'ud Barzani has held the Islamic Movement in Iraqi Kurdistan responsible for the fighting that broke out around Qal'at Dizah near the border with Iran, and for the bombardment of the the city which led to scores being killed or wounded. However, he regarded this as a "reaction" to the refusal of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK] (led by Jalal Talabani) to return offices belonging to the movement in Raniyah and Qal'at Dizah.

In a statement to AL-HAYAH the spokesman denied that the party's forces took part in the fighting. He said that Barzani had cabled Talabani and condemned the shelling of Qal'at Dizah, stressing that the party's forces did not participate in the fighting.

As is known, the PUK accused the KDP's and the Islamic Movement's forces—backed by Iranian artillery—of attacking its positions around Qal'at Dizah. But the KDP said that the attempt to involve it in the matter and link the entire question to Iran is designed to conceal the al-Sulaymaniyah crime, which occurred in June and following which Barzani's party accused the PUK of opening fire on mourners during the funeral of one of its leaders, killing and wounding some of them.

In this context a source close to the KDP said that the "fierce attacks launched by the PUK on Iran did not stop them from sending a delegation to Tehran to discuss the possibility of cooperation between the two sides." The source confirmed that the delegation is in Iran.

On the renewed fighting, the KDP spokesman said that fighting broke out on Saturday morning around Qal'at Dizah between the forces of the Islamic Movement in Iraqi Kurdistan and the PUK. "The information available indicates that it was the Islamists who started to attack the PUK's forces in response to the PUK leadership's refusal to return offices belonging to the Islamists in Raniyah and Qal'at Dizah, despite the normalization process taking place in Kurdistan." The spokesman added that when the KDP leadership received reports about the fighting, it ordered its forces not to intervene. It sent a committee comprising KDP, PUK, Islamic Movement, and Iraqi National Congress representatives to the area to halt the fighting.

In a statement issued by its office in Britain, a copy of which AL-HAYAH has received, the Islamic Movement accused the PUK of starting the fighting. It also stressed that the PUK's forces shelled from inside Qal'at Dizah positions belonging to the movement and the KDP outside the city before an attack was launched against it.

The statement added that the movement's forces replied to the attack, launching a counterattack. "A group of the Islamic Movement's mujahidin entered the city, forcing the PUK's forces to flee" from it. It went on to say that later the PUK began to fiercely shell Qal'at Dizah, killing civilians. "This is why our forces were forced to withdraw from the city to spare innocent lives." [passage omitted]

Ba'th Party Official Defends Democracy in Country

JN1008102594

[Editorial Report] Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic on 3 August publishes on page 3 an approximately 2,500-word article by 'Abd-al-Ghani 'Abd-al-Ghafur, member of the Iraq Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, ASBP, under the headline: "Democracy in Iraq: Questions and Facts." The paper says in its introduction to the article that during its visit to "sisterly Jordan" from 28 June to 6 July 1994, the ASBP delegation led by 'Abd-al-Ghafur was asked about democracy in Iraq. The paper adds that in this article, 'Abd-al-Ghafur answers these questions.

The writer begins his article by saying: "As a result of the media campaign launched by Western countries, some people in the Arab homeland believe that there is only way to democracy; that is, the Western liberal way, which must be copied and followed." The writer adds that "democracy is a human state" that cannot be copied, followed, or spread. 'Abd-al-Ghafur then says: "If we believe in imitation, we, as a nation, should imitate the experiment of democracy in our Arab heritage." He then cites Saddam Husayn as saying that "the democracy we choose should be chosen in the best way, taking into consideration the time and the objective circumstances."

'Abd-al-Ghafur then reviews the following "facts" on Iraq's democratization:

- The party, the revolution, and Saddam's leadership have always believed that democracy is a source of power for the individual and the society.
- Iraq was one the first Arab countries to apply party pluralism, adding that in 1973 there were independent parties in Iraq with their own press, offices, and activities.
- Free parliamentary elections were held in 1980, 1984, and 1988. "Meanwhile, many Arab countries have

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witnessed only one parliamentary elections in recent years."

- A new constitution has been accomplished "to deepen the democratic stage," but "the 30-state aggression" obstructed its presentation in a general referendum.
- There is a valid law for publications and press, which believes in freedom of thinking and its national proposals, and the leadership has prepared a new law for the press.
- The Revolution Command Council issued on 1 September 1991 the Parties Law.

The writer then says that "the mother of facts" is that democracy in Iraq is present on the political, vocational, and media levels, adding that "the state of comprehensive national steadfastness in confronting the aggression and the results of the stage of jihad and construction have reiterated the people's belief in and interaction with the historic leadership of leader President Saddam Husayn in a way that cannot be shaken."

Concluding his article, 'Abd-al-Ghani 'Abd-al-Ghafur, member of the Iraq Command of the ASBP, says: "Iraq is a democratic country in terms of belief and practices. Democracy in Iraq is fine." He adds: "In Iraq, democratization continues and is being strengthened despite the well-known abnormal difficulties. Democracy will witness more prosperity and effectiveness in the fields of party pluralism and press, as well as in other fields, once the unjust embargo is lifted and our people celebrate final victory in the battle of comprehensive awakening."

Minister Reviews Ways To Expedite Crop Marketing

JN1008094894 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 3 Aug 94 p 4

[Text] Trade Minister Muhammad Mahdi Salih yesterday held a meeting with the committees supervising the harvesting and marketing of wheat and barley in Babil Governorate in the presence of Governor al-Hakam Hasan 'Ali. The meeting was devoted to discussing means of expediting the marketing of both crops.

The discussion during this meeting, which was attended by the secretaries of the Interior Ministry, dealt with the agricultural process in the governorate and the peasants' role in the fulfillment of their tasks in order to ensure food for the citizens.

It was decided during the meeting to point out peasants whose performance was outstanding during the last season's harvesting and marketing campaign so that they will be given priority in meeting their requirements for the next season.

Minister Inaugurates Abu Ghurayb Liquid Gas Plant

JN1008095194 Baghdad AL-'IRAQ in Arabic 3 Aug 94 p 2

[Text] Baghdad (INA)—Oil Minister Dr. Safa' Hadi Jawad yesterday inaugurated the Abu Ghurayb gas plant. The project was carried out by Oil Projects Company teams according to Iraqi prudence. The plant, which has a daily production capacity of 18,000 gas cylinders, has two production lines; one automatic and the other manual, and conveyor belts for carrying empty and full cylinders to and from loading platforms. The plant provides liquid gas to the regions of al-Nasr, al-Salam, al-Fallujah, and some areas close to Baghdad. This is in addition to supplying liquid gas to the al-Fallujah and al-Ramadi factories.

Report on Higher Rates of Industrial Production

JN0908182294 Baghdad BABIL in Arabic 2 Aug 94 p 12

[Text] Some 12 enterprises belonging to the Ministry of Industry and Minerals have scored higher rates of production during the first half of 1994.

The Iraqi tobacco, cigarettes, sugar, and cement enterprises; the al-Qadisiyah Enterprise for Electrical Industries; the Ur State Enterprise for Engineering Industry; the electrical, rubber, textile, cotton, leather, carpet, and ready-made clothes industries; and the State Enterprise for Dairy Products have scored an increase in their planned production and have also excelled in diversifying this production.

First Koran Course in Faith Campaign Begins

JN0908192094 Baghdad BABIL in Arabic 1 Aug 94 p 12

[Text] The first course for teaching and reciting the Holy Koran has begun in al-Najaf Governorate. The course was organized by the Awqaf Department in the governorate in support of the faith campaign which is led by leader President Saddam Husayn.

Regime's Troops Reportedly Fire on Civilians

NC1008174494 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] The Iraqi regime's forces deployed in the (Bani Maqan) area opened machine-gun fire on civilians in Chamchamal city the day before yesterday, but there were no casualties among the civilians.

The Iraqi regime's authorities have also cut off electricity supplies to the Shuryash area in Chamchamal District. The area gets its electricity supplies from the Tuz Kharmaru power plant.

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Peres Demands 'Arafat Condemn Qaddumi Remarks

TA1008175294 Jerusalem New Channel 2 Television Network in Hebrew 1700 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres this evening demanded that Yasir 'Arafat publish a condemnation of Faruq Qaddumi's statements about Israel. In a telephone conversation between the two men, 'Arafat promised to say that Qaddumi's remarks merely reflected his personal opinion, whereas, he, 'Arafat, was committed to the Declaration of Principles.

Shahal, Likud Comment

TA1108103794 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin yesterday proposed to Yasir 'Arafat that the safe passage for Palestinians between Gaza and Jericho be operated once a week on Mondays. This was disclosed this morning by Police Minister Moshe Shahal in an interview with Qol Yisra'el. Tomorrow Shahal will visit the border crossing point at Rafah, together with senior Palestinian official Dr. Nabil Sha'th. They will be discuss ways to reduce delays at the crossing point. Palestinians have complained that they were held up for hours when they arrived at Rafah from Cairo. This reportedly caused resentment, both against Israeli authorities and against Yasir 'Arafat.

Shahal also said Faruq Qaddumi's statement was very bad and apparently some of the Palestinians had not yet digested that there was a settlement and agreement with Israel. Such statements were harmful and provoked ridicule and rejection of confidence-building measures which were necessary to both sides.

The Likud has accused Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres of trying to cover up the fact that Yasir 'Arafat did not condemn Faruq Qaddumi for calling for Israel's destruction. The Likud said Israel should demand that 'Arafat dismiss Qaddumi from all his posts.

Egyptian Minister Views Visit, Oil for Palestinians

NC1108071194 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 0510 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Telephone interview with Egyptian Petroleum Minister Dr. Hamdi al-Banbi, in Jerusalem, by correspondent Fawzi al-Jundi, in Cairo; date not given; from the "Dialogue From Afar" program—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Al-Jundi] Minister al-Banbi, welcome to the Voice of the Arabs.

[Al-Banbi] Thank you.

[Al-Jundi] Dr. al-Banbi, your current visit to Israel is two-pronged. The first prong concerns Israel and the second deals with Egypt's endeavors to back the self-rule experiment. Could you tell us the nature of your visit to Israel and the Palestinian self-rule areas?

[Al-Banbi] The most important goal of this visit is to strengthen the comprehensive peace process in the region so that the region might undertake its duty toward its people. The second issue is that Egypt, God willing, will supply the Palestinian self-rule areas with every type of oil product. As you know, these areas get their supply through Israel, so some sort of coordination is needed to avoid any problem of shortages of materials. The third issue is that we are discussing ways to boost Egyptian-Israeli cooperation and perhaps even Egyptian-Israeli-Jordanian cooperation. I am scheduled to meet some officials from various countries to discuss this issue. I was honored to meet Minister Moshe Shahal, who is energy minister and also in charge of the police. We discussed various subjects relating to the Egyptian-Israeli cooperation that began following the peace treaty. Under this treaty, Egypt regained all its territory. We hope all the Arab countries will regain all their territory. We held extensive talks on various topics. I also met Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and President 'Ezer Weizman.

[Al-Jundi] This visit to Israel is part of Egypt's endeavors to boost Palestinian self-rule and strengthen Egypt's external relations. You mentioned that Egypt is contemplating cooperation with the Palestinians and Jordanians following the recent agreement between Israel and Jordan. Does this mean that Egypt is trying to strengthen its ties with these parties in light of the new developments?

[Al-Banbi] The new world order is changing the countries' understanding of or views on bilateral or multilateral relations. Egypt, led by President Mubarak, fully supports the peace process and the entire Egyptian people are standing behind the peace treaty. A peace agreement would not be viable or last long unless it is strengthened by some economic ties among the countries participating in the peace process. The second point is that there is a need to support the newborn Palestinian entity. They have long suffered problems and they need backing. For this backing to materialize, there must be full coordination among all the parties dealing with the Palestinian entity.

[Al-Jundi] Did you agree on steps regarding supplying the Palestinian self-rule areas with their oil needs?

[Al-Banbi] We agreed to leave the choice up to the Palestinian side. I agreed with my colleague the Israeli energy minister that it is up to the Palestinian entity, or the Palestinian self-rule authority, to choose where it wants to buy its oil products, using sound and internationally accepted methods. But there were points we wanted to clarify first. We wanted to make sure that until Egypt's supply starts and until they set up a Palestinian body to receive this supply, there would be no shortage in the oil products they now receive from Israel. There must be coordination so that the Palestinians will not suffer because of a change in supplier, Egypt, Jordan, or others instead of Israel. More meetings will be held in this regard. [passage omitted]

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Discusses Refinery, Pipeline

TA1008141294 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1100 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] The Egyptian authorities have given the go-ahead to a joint venture by Israeli and Egyptian businessmen to invest close to $1 billion to build a modern oil refinery near Alexandria. Our correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that this was announced in the course of the Egyptian oil minister's talks in Israel and was discussed in his brief meeting with the prime minister.

Another project discussed in the talks was a pipeline slated to supply gas from Egypt to Israel, the Palestinian autonomy, and perhaps also to Jordan. The visiting minister said that Egypt will give its final commitment on the issue and sign a contract next year.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1200 GMT on 10 August adds that in a meeting between Minister Shahal and the Egyptian oil minister the two "discussed the possibility of arranging for the supply of various oil products to the autonomy areas and setting up a system which will regulate trade in this sphere. Reference is to both Israeli and Egyptian oil products." The two intend to meet with Nabil Sha'th and Abu-'Ala' [Ahmad Quray'], possibly during the Egyptian minister's current visit to Israel.]

Jordanian Official Examines Use of Ashdod Port

TA1108053794 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0500 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Text] Talal Hasan, the Jordanian official in charge of economic development, visited Ashdod yesterday and examined the possibility of using the port for the transshipment of Jordanian goods.

Ashdod Mayor Tzvi Tzilker said that the Jordanian official discussed the possibility of transshipping 30,000 containers this year, and double that amount in 1995. He [not further specified] said that using Ashdod port could save the Jordanian businessmen $1,000 per container.

Official: No Diplomatic Status for Aid Offices

TA1108101294 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 11 Aug 94 p 1

[Report by Moti Bassok]

[Text] Yesterday in Jerusalem, the Foreign Ministry spokesman claimed that "no country has opened or is about to open a diplomatic representation in Jericho or Gaza. Foreign relations are outside the scope of the Palestinian Authority's powers."

The spokesman was asked to address this issue in the wake of media reports that Germany and other European Union countries have or are about to open diplomatic representations in the autonomy. According to the Foreign Ministry spokesman, Germany opened an office through which it will coordinate and direct the aid it will extend to the autonomy, and the same applies to the other countries. The Foreign Ministry spokesman stressed: "The aid offices that will be opened in the future by countries with which the Palestinians have aid agreements will have no consular or diplomatic status. The opening of those offices is based on the Declaration of Principles and the Cairo agreement. This is being done with strict adherence to letter of the documents, and is being coordinated with Israel which encourages the granting of economic aid for the development of the territories and for the welfare of their residents."

Illegal Activity Reported at Orient House

TA1008191994 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1700 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Report by Uri Kohen-Aharonov]

[Text] The police discovered that interrogations were conducted at the Orient House PLO headquarters in East Jerusalem against those who were suspected of collaboration with Israel. The intelligence activity and investigation conducted by the Israel Police lasted several months and suspects were detained. Police Minister Moshe Shahal recently summoned Faysal al-Husayni for a talk about this affair, and he confirmed in an interview to our program that indictments will soon be submitted against some of the suspects. Our police affairs correspondent Uri Kohen-Aharonov reports about this affair.

[Begin recording] [Kohen-Aharonov] What is indeed happening behind these locked gates? Do only political meetings take place here, at Orient House? The Israel Police possess information and alleged evidence that entirely different activities take place in this building. Intelligence information reaching the police about two months ago indicated that the Palestinian security elements conducted interrogations against collaborators with Israel and other suspects at Orient House. In the wake of this information, the police detained several senior people involved with security at Orient House and with the Palestinian security services. They were interrogated on suspicion of having engaged in illegal interrogations at Orient House and in arson, as well as plotting to harm an Israel Police intelligence official.

Police Minister Moshe Shahal recently summoned Faysal al-Husayni for a talk about the Orient House affair.

[Shahal] I presented to him several things which required clarifications, and indeed....

[Kohen-Aharonov, interrupting] Such as?

[Shahal] Such as information we had about activity which is characterized as policing, about Orient House employees who engaged in activity which is the duty of the police.

[Kohen-Aharonov] In the building itself?

[Shahal] The activity itself was important, although the place is another problem. There is no doubt that if there

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had been no connection between the activity and the place, I would not have had to make my comment. Some of the activity involved interrogation of people suspected of committing crimes. They were interrogated by Orient House team members who were detained as a result.

[Kohen-Aharonov] Will charge sheets be submitted, in your opinion?

[Shahal] For sure.

[Kohen-Aharonov] New information reached the Police Ministry this week about additional activities taking place at Orient House, including the connection between the PLO headquarters here and the Jericho self-government. [end recording]

President Releases 8 Palestinian Women Prisoners

TA1008162294 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1500 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Excerpts] Eight Palestinian women security prisoners were released from jail today after President 'Ezer Weizman agreed to reduce their sentences. At the same time, the president confirmed that the sentence of a Jewish prisoner in administrative detention will also be cut in the near future. [passage omitted]

Seven of the eight women released from Hasharon prison are East Jerusalem residents aged between 18 and 20. They were sentenced to terms of up to five years for offenses of attacking police, trying to attack soldiers, or carrying knives. [passage omitted]

'Arafat 'Capriciousness' Said Causing Problems

TA1008181194 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Aug 94 p B1

[Article by Dani Rubinstein: "They Do Not Find It Funny Anymore"]

[Text] If one can believe the stories coming from the Gaza Strip, Yasir 'Arafat has not changed his old ways. He makes hasty decisions and frequently bursts into rages in which he yells and curses. 'Arafat holds lengthy meetings which do not lead to anything constructive. He constantly contradicts himself in front of his aides, and as always, issues bombastic declarations of dubious value. In the past, all this was forgiven. 'Arafat's exaggerations were said to have propaganda value. People explained that this was the nature of a revolutionary leader and asserted that his devotion and dedication excused everything else.

Most of the officials in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip did not know 'Arafat well and are now wondering how they will get along with him. In one of the first meetings he held, while visiting Jericho, a group of security prisoners arrived. They began presenting requests and demands and 'Arafat listened for several moments. He then stopped them and loudly asked: You have demands? Are you presenting demands to me? You must on no account behave like this. And, as a hush fell over the room, 'Arafat declared: You should not present demands. You should give me orders! You people who sat in jail are entitled to give me instructions and orders, not to make requests! 'Arafat continued to praise the prisoners and highlight their contribution until the meeting was over. One of the participants later said that they left agitated and confused. They never got around to discussing their list of complaints and demands.

PLO veterans are familiar with 'Arafat's tricks and find it hard to tolerate his manipulative behavior. The most prominent among them, Mahmud 'Abbas [Abu-Mazin], has cut off all contacts for the time being. He belongs to the founding generation of Fatah and has high standing and a great deal of prestige. The Israelis who negotiated with the PLO regard him as a talented and serious man. However, since the incident on the stage in Cairo he has not been heard from. Even before that, he had clashed with 'Arafat on numerous occasions after which he announced his retirement. This time, however, he told his close associates that he could really put up with it no longer.

The number two position in the Palestinian Authority (temporary government), perhaps even the portfolio of prime minister—if 'Arafat is considered president—was left open for Mahmud 'Abbas. He rejected it, however, and did not even come to the Gaza Strip and Jericho. Ahmad Quray' [Abu-'Ala'], perhaps the most prominent member of the Palestinian Authority to arrive, is considered a member of Abu-Mazin's camp, and therefore it is difficult to assess how effectively he can work together with 'Arafat.

The major problem was and remains management style. In the past, in Tunis or Beirut, 'Arafat could do as he pleased. Whoever was unhappy could get up and leave. Here things are different. There are two million Palestinians who live in the area on a permanent basis and have no intention or possibility of leaving.

As long as one was merely dealing with public relations, it was no big deal. There was some snickering in Gaza when 'Arafat inaugurated a soft drink factory that had already been operating for six months in al-Shaja'iyah neighborhood, or when he laid the cornerstone for an existing pier that was being repaired and called it a port. They also laughed when he announced that hundreds of millions of dollars would be invested in the construction of a huge air terminal, on which work was scheduled to begin within a few weeks, with him, 'Arafat, personally supervising the job as an engineer.

There were many raised eyebrows when in his rage over the holdup in funds, 'Arafat declared: "I do not need the World Bank's favors. I can recruit hundreds of millions from three Palestinian companies who are prepared to give me the money." 'Arafat has been making strange announcements about money issues for a long time. He has demanded that the United Kingdom turn over the billions left in the British mandate's coffers in 1948. He

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asked the Israeli Treasury for hundreds of millions in taxes that were collected over the years from Palestinian workers. 'Arafat also claims that Saudi Arabia owes him a fortune in taxes deducted from the Palestinian workers there. He demands funds from the donor countries as though they were his entitlement.

One can take the same view toward these declarations and the appointment he made upon arrival in the Gaza Strip, when Moshe Hirsch, the eccentric Natorey Qarta rabbi, was made a member of his cabinet. The people around 'Arafat undoubtedly try to stop these bizarre declarations and announcements, but the man cannot be silenced.

Matters assume a graver significance when such proclamations become the mandatory decrees of the executive authority. That was the case when 'Arafat initiated arbitrary dismissals and appointments at the Gaza City Municipality. Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] sought to demonstrate against the PLO chairman on this matter and 'Arafat's policemen surrounded the streets leading to the demonstration and prevented people from joining the demonstrators. It was the same thing with regard to the closure of AL-NAHAR and the suspension of journalist Da'ud Kuttab. 'Arafat left AL-QUDS functioning as the only paper in the territories, and it now serves him as an official bulletin.

There were similar incidents, such as the dispute over water allocations for farmers in Jericho. This led to an unprecedented commercial strike in Jericho against 'Arafat, who fired Munzir Irshid, the officer in charge of the city. Not a week went by before a decree was issued in which Irshid was reinstated to his post. He was even promoted and placed in charge of all the West Bank municipalities.

'Arafat is concentrating all the power in his hands, and the new Palestinian administration is crumpling under the burden of the capriciousness, fickleness, arbitrariness, and confusion which most of the PLO activists in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip have a hard time bearing.

GDP, Exports Data for Second Quarter of 1994

TA1108104394 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 11 Aug 94 p 8

[Report by Jose Rosenfeld]

[Excerpts] The Gross Domestic Product [GDP] fell 5.7 percent in the second quarter of the year, as the closure of the territories cut down construction activity and the Hebron massacre reduced tourism, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

The GDP measures the total value of goods produces and services provided by the economy.

The business product, which measures private sector activity, dropped 10.2 percent compared with the first quarter, due to the sharp decline in construction and a relatively moderate increase in industrial production.

Despite the drop, both the GDP and the business product rose 5 percent during the first half of the year following first quarter increases of 7.8 percent in the GDP and 10.2 percent in the business product. [passage omitted]

Imports of equipment and machinery have risen by 15 percent during the first half of the year and are 18 percent higher than last year's average.

Private consumption grew 5 percent in the second quarter after jumping by 24 percent in the previous quarter. During the first half of the year, private consumption rose 14 percent, or by 12 per capita compared with the second half of last year.

Exports dropped 7 percent during the second quarter, following a sharp increase of 23 percent in the previous quarter. During the first half of the year, exports grew at an annual rate of 10 percent.

Imports jumped 25 percent in the second quarter, after shooting up 33 percent in the first quarter. Rising fuel and diamond imports and tourism abroad were responsible for the increase.

Companies Present Second Quarter Balance Sheets

TA1108105894 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 11 Aug 94 p 8

[Report by Rachel Neiman]

[Excerpts] Elron reported second quarter net profits of $789,000, a 60 percent decline compared with the $1.98m. figures recorded in the same period last year. Revenues rose by 12 percent to $2.5m., from $2.2m. last year. More than 80 percent of all revenues were exports.

The company said profits were affected by poorer performances of subsidiaries Elbit and Elscint compared with last year. In the second quarter, Elron invested $1.7m. in Fibronics International. Elbit subsequently announced the acquisition of the firm and will pay Elron some $2m. on its investments. [passage omitted] Tadiran Consumer Products reported second quarter net profits of NIS [new Israeli shekels] 4.5m. compared with NIS 6.4m during the same quarter last year. The firm had revenues of NIS 110.15., up from NIS 103.7m in 1993. [passage omitted]

Tambour reported a 50 percent drop in second quarter net profits to NIS 3.33 million, compared with NIS 6.7m. The company had revenues of NIS 92.9m. compared with NIS 96m. in the same quarter in 1993.

Fertilizers and Chemicals reported a decline in second quarter net profits to NIS 1m. compared with NIS 2.7m. The firm had revenues of NIS 81.9m. compared with NIS 88m. in the same period last year. Earnings per share were NIS 0.24 compared with NIS 1.79 last year.

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The company blamed the drop on the continued world crisis in the fertilizer market.

Mul-T-Lock announced second quarter net profits of NIS 3.2m. compared with NIS 4.5m. The company had revenues of NIS 46.9m compared with NIS 44.4m in the same period last year. Earnings per share were NIS 0.19 compared with NIS 0.30 for the second quarter of 1993.

Budget Director Comments on 1995 State Budget

TA1008113594 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV ('ASAQIM supplement) in Hebrew 5 Aug 94 pp 2, 3

[Interview with David Brodet, director of the Finance Ministry's Budget Office, by David Lipkin; place and date not given: "Few Impositions in the 1995 Budget"—first three paragraphs are MA'ARIV introduction]

[Text] David Brodet, director of the Finance Ministry's Budget Department, is in an ideal position. Unlike his predecessors, he does not have to look for new taxes to impose on the public to cover additional expenses in the state budget. He can afford to plan a budget for 1995 that includes lower income tax and other indirect taxes to encourage economic growth. Brodet's perspective is the Israeli economy's preparedness for the 21st century.

Brodet has been the director of the powerful Budget Department (which intimidates cabinet ministers) for three and a half years. When it comes to budget demands, Brodet and his men can tackle the top officials of any government ministry and point out the weak points in them. He came to this senior Finance Ministry position after playing an active role in the implementation of the plan to stabilize the economy as a senior deputy director general at the Industry and Trade Ministry. Later, he was Israel Aircraft Industries' deputy director general in charge of finances. Brodet now heads the Israeli delegation to the economic talks with the PLO.

The 1995 budget is his fourth in his current job. According to him, this budget's main message is economic growth. "This continued growth will allow us to lower taxes and allocate more funds to education and infrastructure. It will allow us to deal more intensively with national crises, such as the problems of the kibbutzim (which prevents a whole sector from reaching economic stability), the defense industries, the Histadrut sick fund, and the municipalities. The budget is mainly oriented toward growth. It will enable us to enter the second half of the 1990's and the 21st century with a new Israeli economy."

[Lipkin] Will national crises not curtail the ability to maneuver the budget?

[Brodet] There are limitations. If we did not have to earmark funds to solve crises, we could do other things. We must create a budget for next year that provides for continued growth, taking these limitations into account. We took two significant measures to that end: we decreased the deficit and further lowered taxes.

We must solve problems arising from crises and from big wage demands that accumulated over the past year. These issues must be discussed in a responsible and serious manner. We must allocate more funds in certain areas and cut back on others. Any increments must be within the framework of the budget and in accordance with our economic limitations. Some of these limitations stem from the size of our domestic product, work force, and natural resources. We cannot exceed these limitations. The only way to overcome them is to work hard, produce more, and allocate funds according to priorities.

[Lipkin] What about Minister Ya'ir Tzaban's demand to increase the deficit in the new budget?

[Brodet] If we increase the deficit, we will ultimately hurt the growth process, and then we will have no resources for all sorts of purposes. Look at what happened to the economy in the last five years. An economic growth process is under way, and we are also able to increase the budget, whereas 10 years ago, any addition entailed serious cutbacks. That is not the best or the ideal situation. The current situation, when budget increments hinge on limitations and possibilities, is better. We should learn to restrain ourselves; in other words, not to accomplish everything within one year.

[Lipkin] You increase the budget on the one hand and lower taxes on the other. How do the two square?

[Brodet] The answer to this apparent paradox is quite simple. Taxes rose from 39 to 41 percent in the last two years as a result of economic growth. The rise in the tax burden might adversely affect growth. Lowering taxation is meant to enhance growth and enable its natural continuation in coming years. If we fail to do that, the tax burden will increase and affect growth.

Other measures must be taken to ensure growth: continue to invest in infrastructure, create macroeconomic conditions, and improve export profitability. If we want to solve national problems by increasing budget allocations, however, we must cut elsewhere. That is why we increased certain allocations in the budget, reduced some expenses, and continued to ease the tax burden.

[Lipkin] How will the budget affect the citizens next year?

[Brodet] Citizens will feel better next year because the standard of living will rise. Wages will go up (too much, in my opinion; this could be harmful, because wages should rise only in conjunction with a rise in productivity), income tax and purchase tax will continue to drop, and national insurance payments will go down. If we do all this in a balanced way, we will be able to pursue the same course of action in coming years.

[Lipkin] Will we pay more for health insurance and compulsory trade union fees?

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[Brodet] There are very few impositions in the new budget. That is why we propose to reduce national insurance payments for military reserves duty by 0.9 percent in order to offset some of the strain of the health insurance. Consequently, we hope we will ultimately not increase the burden but balance it. If we could lower other taxes, we would. Our working premise was that taxes must be lowered in real terms in 1996-1997 by 2.4 billion shekels, because lower taxes are vital for economic growth.

[Lipkin] Which taxes will you lower next year?

[Brodet] We will lower national insurance payments and some indirect taxes. There will be some drop in direct taxes as a result of decisions made in previous years.

[Lipkin] Will the defense budget decrease as a result of the agreements with the PLO and Jordan?

[Brodet] It will happen ultimately. Peace should allow for a reduction in the defense budget but, judging by the defense establishment's arguments, I am not sure that this will happen in the next one or two years. Opinions differ on the issue. We believe the new reality is a good reason to cut back defense expenditures. It seems that next year's defense budget, however, will be similar to the current one.

[Lipkin] Should an objective entity be established to examine the size of the defense budget in the new reality?

[Brodet] We believe in the need for a broader and more open debate about the size of the defense budget and its main components. At present, the government decides on the defense budget; however, we would not object if an objective or broad-minded professional entity took part in the debate on this budget, which would be based on economic as well as security considerations.

[Lipkin] The 1995 budget misestimated the rate of inflation. How did that happen?

[Brodet] We had a big surprise with inflation. We are 2-3 percent away from our goal. The government took various measures with regard to housing, but their impact in the field is still unclear. There is no choice but to put more land on the market, improve the planning process, and solve manpower problems stemming from the closure of the territories.

In addition to that, a big monetary expansion occurred at the end of 1993, which was also felt in 1994. I hope that the measures taken by the Bank of Israel, including raising interest rates, will curb this expansion, which ultimately has an adverse effect on the budget. We must make sure not to increase the cash flow as a result of a violation of wage agreements. If all these problems are solved, we will be able to return to one-digit inflation, which we will feel in the second half of 1995.

[Lipkin] Do we not need a new economic program?

[Brodet] No. If the budget is adhered to, this is the best economic program. In recent years, the economy has experienced less dramas or one-time measures and more planned moves. If we can make plans two-three years in advance, the economy will benefit. The Israeli economy calls for systematic, professional, and thorough planning. We are a growing society which must be managed in a respectable and mature manner in order to attain our goals. This is better than abrupt moves.

[Lipkin] What about the Industry and Trade Ministry's request for a greater budget to finance overseas marketing?

[Brodet] Leading Israeli export firms do better in research and development than in marketing. The $300 million allocated to research and development are sufficient. Marketing has suffered some setbacks, which could be amended. The Industry and Trade Ministry has a budget of hundreds of millions of shekels.

A certain tool was very vital in the 1960's and 1970's, less so in the 1980's, and almost totally unnecessary in the 1990's. I am talking about the Law for Encouragement of Capital Investments. These funds could be used for research and development and for marketing. Investment has become less vital, because we now have orderly capital markets, which did not exist before. This issue is being handled in a conservative and outdated fashion. Israel's industries must make this strategic change.

[Lipkin] Did the PLO representatives change their approach in the meetings in view of the developments with Jordan?

[Brodet] I do not know what their impact was. The most important outcome of this week's meeting was that we saw the first signs that the Palestinian Authority is getting organized, although it is still getting its act together. The meeting was held to decide on the modalities of future sessions. I believe matters will settle as we go along.

[Lipkin] What about Israeli firms having access to projects in the autonomy?

[Brodet] The issue was not raised independently but was discussed as part of other issues. The Palestinians contend that there will be no discrimination against Israeli firms. Therefore, it is not words but deeds that count on this matter. At this point, they do not have an organized procurement mechanism. One must bear in mind that Israeli suppliers still dominate the market in various items. Therefore, one cannot conclude that there has been a turn for the worse. Those same Israeli suppliers were still there in early August. We must wait and see what happens in the future.

[Lipkin] You are involved in the recovery program of Israel Military Industries [IMI]. What will happen to it?

[Brodet] This is a tough problem. To date, we have given $300 million to IMI. We managed to achieve two things: We reduced its oversized work force and enforced a more conventional wage system. IMI is currently tackling a fundamental problem, which has to do with

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products, technologies, and marketing. There are problems in the international as well as the local market.

IMI must better define its relative edge and unique qualities to gain a place in the business world that will enable its survival—something which is not yet certain. The question of its long-term existence is still being discussed. Unfortunately, we have not yet seen a thorough strategic plan, which will be submitted to us only next week. Next year, too, we will have to give funds to IMI. The issue of the military industries will feature prominently in 1995.

[Lipkin] What is the solution?

[Brodet] The long-term solution is to privatize the military industries and to have them managed by business-oriented boards. Because of their affiliation with the government, these industries have easier access to budgets than do other entities. Ultimately, this is detrimental to them. At the moment, however, the workers and the management boards are not thrilled about privatization, because they have it easier with the government as their patron.

[Lipkin] Are rumors that you intend to quit after this budget true?

[Brodet] I have handled four state budgets, and this may well be my last one. People usually retire after handling four budgets, but we will only know that when the deliberations on the budget are over. What will I do? I consider work in the civil service to be an important contribution, but I am not ruling out the possibility of entering the private sector in the future.

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Sources Deny Peace Treaty With Israel Imminent

MM1008141994 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 10 Aug 94 p 3

[Excerpts] Moriah Plaza Hotel (south of the Dead Sea), AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Jordan and Israel concluded yesterday the talks of the first day of the second round of their bilateral negotiations at Moriah Plaza Hotel on the Israeli coast of the Dead Sea, one day after the opening of the "al-'Arabah Crossing" between the two countries in a border location 3 km north of al-'Aqabah city. [passage omitted]

Dr. Fayiz al-Tarawinah, head of the Jordanian delegation, has told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: There is clear willingness among all to cooperate to the utmost—which is gainful. With regard to the subcommittees, we drew up their working mechanism in the previous negotiations held in Wadi al-'Arabah. This include issues which emerged clearly in the Washington negotiations like aviation, tourism, and trade.

On the date of signing a Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty, al-Tarawinah said: We have answered that question on numerous occasions. We are negotiating here to achieve peace, and this is linked to the negotiations and the scale of their progress. No specific date can be set for that. Generally, we are engaging in a serious negotiation process. [passage omitted]

Sources of the negotiators have pointed to the importance of the current round of negotiations, which will continue for two days before it is suspended temporarily to be resumed soon. Because it is addressing details of the topics being negotiated, especially territory and water.

The same sources stressed to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the belief that the negotiation period will be short and that a Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty is imminent is unrealistic. Because a peace treaty can only be signed when all the matters included on the Jordanian-Israeli agenda are resolved in an integrated manner. The sources indicated in this connection that the border demarcation process alone could take several months. And there are other important questions on the agenda, including the refugee issue, which assumes a regional dimension through a joint Jordanian-Egyptian-Israeli-Palestinian committee. [passage omitted]

King Said Planning Jerusalem Visit 14 August

JN1008142694 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 8 Aug 94 p 1

[Text] Amman, Omani News Agency—King Husayn of Jordan will visit occupied Jerusalem on Sunday [14 August].

Jordanian sources have told the Omani News Agency that the king's visit will not last more than three hours, during which the Jordanian monarch will perform prayers at the al-Aqsa Mosque, and inspect the maintenance work currently under way at the mosque and the holy Dome of the Rock, for which he is paying.

King Addresses Christian Delegation on Jerusalem

JN1008172094 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Address by King Husayn to a delegation representing Jordanian Christian sects at the Royal Hashemite Court in Amman on 10 August—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Dear, beloved brothers. You are welcome to this house, the house of Jordanians from all descents and origins, members of the one big, dear family. I am thankful and grateful for all of you and for the kinfolk and brothers whom you represent, and for what you have noted about the joint, common march and about our joint history, beginning with the [early Muslim] Caliph 'Umar's Covenant, and up to Husayn Bin-'Ali, 'Abdallah Bin-Husayn, and Husayn Bin-Talal. I would like to emphasize that we will remain one family, one team. We will continue to perform our duty to the best of our ability under all circumstances, so that this march and this family would remain an example to be emulated by everyone in this region under all circumstances, just as they were in the past, as they are now, and as they will remain, God willing. We will remain brothers before God, brothers in the homeland, and a strong and capable family. Regarding our rights and the holy places and care for them, we will continue to do the impossible to maintain and preserve them. This is an honor for us as Hashemites and for this country and its people, who offered a great deal along this path and throughout history.

We are not competing with anybody. We are not trying to impose ourselves on anybody. However, inspired by pure conscience, God willing, we are acting in the interest of all, and to effect a meeting among the faithful children of Prophet Abraham, peace be upon him, so that Holy Jerusalem would remain the symbol and meaning of their meeting as pious worshipers of God. We have worked and will continue work to restore Arab rights in Jerusalem to their rightful owners. As long as I am alive, it is an honor for me, and for the Hashemites who will come after me, to be one of you, with you, and yours, and to forever maintain the trust and perform the duty in the best way.

All thanks and appreciation for my brothers, kinfolk, and beloved ones in this homeland, which brings us together as one family and one team. I beseech God to grant us success. I am confident of the inevitability of attaining our aims and objectives, because they bring good for everyone, preserve everyone's interests, and maintain the trust in the best way. May peace and God's blessings be upon you. [applause]

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This is a sacred unity that cannot be harmed by anyone in this world. This is a reality. This is our march, in which we pride ourselves. We all take pride in affiliation with this family and this march. May God bless you.

King Receives Message From Sultan Qabus of Oman

JN1008164094 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has received a message from His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id of Oman. The message expresses his majesty the sultan's warmest congratulations and those of the people and Government of the Sultanate of Oman and his support for the contents of the Washington Declaration, the steps which followed the declaration on the road to achieving a comprehensive and just peace in the region, as well as the opportunities provided by this declaration for Jordan's growth, progress, and prosperity.

His Majesty Sultan Qabus said: The gain you achieved in order to continue the Jordanian Hashemite role in supervising the holy shrines in Holy Jerusalem only shows your majesty's concern not to relinquish the rights of Jordan and the Arabs.

Prince Hasan on Peace Talks, Future of Region

JN1108081194 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 11-12 Aug 94 pp 1, 7

[By JORDAN TIMES staff correspondent Ayman al-Safadi]

[Text] Amman—His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan said Wednesday [10 August] that major agreements on the common agenda for the peace talks between Jordan and Israel could be reached in 1995.

Describing 1994 as a threshold for peace in the region, Prince Hasan said: "I believe that major agreements in terms of the agenda can be in evidence... by early 1995."

The agreements will include shared maps and surveys that would detail the borders between the two countries and "Jordanian and Israeli sovereignty on land," Prince Hasan said during a meeting with representatives of the U.S.-based United Jewish Appeal (UJA) and the Jewish community in Boston.

The Crown Prince told over 100 leading Jewish businessmen that the Jordanian-Israeli achievements since the signing of the Washington Declaration on July 25 had exceeded "expectations in terms of breaking down the psychological barriers" between the Jordanians and the Israelis.

Citing the opening ceremonies of the al-'Aqabah-Elat crossing point on Monday, Prince Hasan said "outpouring of goodwill...was evident" in the human encounter between Jordanian and Israeli war veterans and the families of soldiers killed in the Arab-Israeli wars.

Prince Hasan stressed that peacemaking is not for the elite but for people who should feel its benefits in terms of improved living standards. He said peace should help eliminate the disparity in the living conditions of the people of the area.

Calling for a major vision for the development of the Jordan Rift Valley from Lake Tiberias in the north to Red Sea in the south, Prince Hasan proposed that an economic summit for regional development which will be held in Morocco in September consider "a phased out implementation" of a multi-billion development plan [as published] being worked out by Jordanian and Israeli negotiators.

The economy of the region "can be rehabilitated on the basis of pluralism and inter-dependence," Prince Hasan told the Jewish visitors, who arrived here Tuesday. He said efforts should be directed towards evolving an economic model which is "acceptable and livable."

Pointing to the lack of cooperation among the countries of the Middle East, Prince Hasan called for a joint lobby committee to make the world understand that "this region is a region only in name. It is featureless."

"This is a region which has been a wilderness in terms of institution-building," Prince Hasan said.

Responding to a question on the Syrian-Israeli track of the negotiation, Prince Hasan said he hoped progress would be attained on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks of the peace talks in order to support the building of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

"The idea of a comprehensive peace process that leaves someone out is clearly a shortfall that cannot be accepted," Prince Hasan said.

"My hope is that 1994 can be the threshold year (in the peace process) and I do not limit that...to the Jordanians and the Palestinians," Prince Hasan said.

The Crown Prince said Jordan would continue to extend support to the Palestinian people, saying that helping the Palestinians had been a constant of the Jordanian policy.

Prince Hasan explained that Jordan's responsibilities for the Arab areas occupied by Israel in 1967 was to yield sovereignty over them to an Arab entity.

Responding to a question on where Jordan stood on the creation of a Palestinian state, Prince Hasan said: "There is a clear progression from national haven to homeland and that progress may lead at a given moment to statehood" for Palestinians."

He said "there is no shred of paper that says the U.S. is against a Palestinian state" as the question claimed.

"There is no ceiling placed on progression of Palestinian rights. Let's see what evolves within a civilised and political manner in the next two years," Prince Hasan said.

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Prince Hasan said it will be very difficult to envisage peace without resolving the religious issue in Jerusalem in light of the importance of the Holy City to Muslims, Christians and Jews.

He said followers of the three religions have a religious responsibility in the Holy City and while religion cannot be separated from politics, "as we try to resolve the political issue there has to be a religious solution that should enhance political moves" to end the conflict over the city.

Prince Hasan said Jordan had done more than any other Arab country in terms of demographic absorption of refugees who came in different waves that burdened the country's resources and infrastructure.

But the Crown Prince emphasised that despite the cost of assimilating the refugees, Jordan gave full rights to all its citizens without discrimination. He urged that world economic aid should address the real problems of poverty and unemployment and not to employ technical terms that do not correspond with the realities on the ground.

He said aid should be directed towards countries that can proceed with implementing projects that can contribute to the development of the region.

Responding to a question on whether the coming Morocco conference should channel its assistance to bilateral projects rather than multilateral ones that could be hard to implement, Prince Hasan said: "If the most competent can-doers can get together and come up with the nucleus of an investment seminar" ideas will translate into projects.

While noting that "much remains to be done before full peace dawns on the Middle East," Prince Hasan said it is essential to "break down stereotypes."

UJA Chairman Richard Pearlstone said many of the members of the delegation who are with him on the organisation's "Prime Minister's Mission" were interested in investing in Jordan as well as in Israel.

He said his group and other political Jewish organisations in the U.S. will work to increase economic and political support to Jordan, saying Jewish lobbyists in the United States had pushed for the writing off of Jordan's foreign debt after the signing of the Washington Declaration.

Mr. Pearlstone presented Prince Hasan with a framed lithograph representing the Asher, an ancient Israeli tribe.

The UJA is a non-political, non-profit organisation that annually raises $750 million of donations which it distributes to Jewish communities in the U.S., Israel and other countries.

Members of the UJA are industry and business leaders, whose annual contribution to the organisation amount to $100,000.

The Boston Jewish community is the oldest federated charity organisation in the U.S. and among its leaders is Steven Grossman, president of the influential American Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC).

The group had visited Morocco and met with King Hassan before arriving in the Middle East.

Al-Majali Receives Christopher Cable of Thanks

JN1008182294 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1600 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali has received a telegram from U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who thanked the premier for his relentless work and efforts on the recent historic step in the Middle East peace process. Mr. Christopher lauded Mr. al-Majali's endeavors during the opening of the crossing point between al-'Aqabah and Elat port cities.

The secretary stressed the U.S. Administration's decision to follow up its task to overcome the remaining challenges until the final stages of the peace process, the goal of which is achieving a just, lasting, and comprehensive Middle East peace.

Report on IAF News Conference on Peace Process

JN1108075994 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Excerpt] A number of the members of the House of Representatives from the Islamic Action Front party [IAF] held a news conference at the party's headquarters today in which they spoke about their positions on the peace process.

A statement, read by IAF official spokesman Deputy Hamzah Mansur, and distributed at the beginning of the conference, said the front rejects the peace process and the agreements and declarations resulting from it since the Madrid conference, which was held in October 1991, and until now.

He urged the government to respect public liberties, free political detainees, and stop chasing mosque preachers. He also asked the government not to encroach on democracy, but to show eagerness to enhance it.

Answering a question on their opposition to the measures taken by the official quarters in implementation of preaching and guidance and political parties laws that had been approved by the previous House of Representative, which comprised 32 deputies from the Islamic movement and its supporters, he said the government is chasing us and that this is in accordance with the law. He said it arrested certain mosque preachers without a legal warrant, and was confused because it did not know what institution it should send them to.

In reply to Mansur's statement, in which he said the government chasing preachers was not in accordance with the law, Minister of Justice Hisham al-Tall denied

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the presence of any political prisoners in the kingdom. He also denied that arbitrary arrests are made and said there is no deviation from law and procedures. [passage omitted]

Opposition to Normalization Urged

NC1008160094 Paris AFP in English 1257 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Excerpt] Amman, Aug 10 (AFP)—The main fundamentalist opposition group in Jordan, the Islamic Action Front [IAF], on Wednesday called for the formation of an Islamic alliance to counter any normalisation with Israel.

Hamzah Mansur, spokesman for the front's deputies in parliament, urged Jordanians to "strongly oppose this normalisation and all plans aimed at creating Zionist and U.S. hegemony in the region."

The front, representing the Muslim Brotherhood in parliament, has 16 of the 80 seats in the assembly.

"Any Jordanian who agrees to meet Jews in our streets or engages in trade with them will be regarded as a traitor," Mansur told a news conference here.

Mansur said he hoped no Israeli Embassy would be seen in Amman.

The Arab-Israeli conflict must be treated as "one indivisible whole," he said, hoping that Syria would "not go the same way as the others." He was referring to the PLO and Jordan, which have both made peace with Israel.

Israeli and Jordanian negotiators tackled the thorny issues of water-sharing and drawing up their joint border at talks on the Israeli side of the Dead Sea Wednesday. [passage omitted]

King Instructs Hasan To Set Up Reform System

JN1008201094 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Aug 94

["Text" of message from King Husayn to Crown Prince Hasan in Amman on 10 August; read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Peace and blessings be upon the trustworthy Arab, Hashemite prophet.

My brother and object of my trust, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, may God preserve you. May God's peace and blessings be upon you.

It is a pleasure to send to you this message while you, together with your dear brother children of Jordan, are preparing for the homeland's entry into a new phase of civilization in the course of the good march whose bases have been laid down by the late founder grandfather, King 'Abdallah Bin-Husayn, may God have mercy on him. Those bases were laid down on firm constitutional foundations, making it possible to establish constitutional institutions and to strengthen the homeland's structure on the basis of justice, freedom, fairness, and human dignity.

Expressing deep affection for and extreme confidence in you, I stress pride in your continued efforts to enhance Jordan's dignity and loftiness, and your eagerness to effectively join the sons of the homeland in whatever posts they occupy to build our social, political, intellectual, and economic life on enlightened bases. Those efforts provide prospects for progress and give us the right to contribute to the entire human scene as advocates of justice, good, and peace.

Proceeding from this vision, I am very eager to see our march free of any impurities and to enter the new stage with the requirements needed for the bolstering of our democratization process completed. This democratization process should be committed to the Constitution, the Charter, and laws, which achieve justice, safeguard the interests of homeland and the citizen, protect our distinguished achievements, and enable us to deal with successive changes on the domestic and regional levels. Based on the above, I entrust you with preparing for that process with all the profound vision and full interest in the supremacy of law in all fields that I and our people know you to have. Toward that end, good, honest individuals must be allowed to reach decisionmaking positions, comprehensive administrative reform must stressed, and the efficiency of the administrative system must be upgraded so that it would be able to deal with new realities, especially in the field of foreign investment. It must be made easy for investors to find local partners in accordance with the law, which preserves public funds.

Since Jordan is about to expand its network of connections with the EC, the United States, Japan, and other economic blocs, it is obvious that the judiciary system, the Audit Bureau, and the Bureau of Administrative Control and Scrutiny should have a complementary role within the framework of modern laws which deal with the language of trade. We want this dealing to preserve Jordan's reputation and status. Any defect or leniency in the use of public funds will have a negative impact on future investment prospects.

Therefore, establishing a central apparatus for procurements, mobilizing a foreign trade policy, and modernizing laws and regulations in order to keep profits within a reasonable and recognized limit are necessary at this stage. Meanwhile, we stress the need to protect our economic march from any financial impediment and any bureaucratic obstacle that will harm the pure image of that march in the eyes of both the sons of the homeland and people abroad. Therefore, we have to reward honest people, who exert efforts and shoulder responsibility in an honorable and honest manner. There is no room from now on to tolerate any deviation by any person or group to abuse public money. There is also no room for exploiting official posts to make personal gains.

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Therefore, I entrust my brother, my crown prince, and the object of my trust to chair a royal committee, whose members he will choose from among the best sons of Jordan who are known by the homeland for their integrity, honesty, and qualifications. Among the duties of this committee is to endeavor to establish an economic and investment climate on clear foundations in order to give everybody his right without any negligence, disorder, or deviation. This should cover both the public and private sectors. It is also necessary to assert that such a climate will clear the way for development, considering it is a collective national effort whose affairs should be run by competent sides on sound and clear-cut scientific bases and within the legislative and administrative rules in order to promote the effort, expand the circle of participation and distinguished performance in every field of national action, to cultivate respect for the law, and to observe some laws' need for development or modernization. Coordination among the parties concerned should be active and perpetual.

I am confident that you will shoulder this responsibility in the best way possible, and I stress my full support for you and beseech Almighty God to grant you success and to take care of you. It is He who responds to calls. Please accept my deep love and regards.

Written in Amman on Rabi' al-Awwal, 1415 Hegira, corresponding to 10 August 1994.

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Syrian Foreign Minister al-Shar' Arrives on Visit

Meets With al-Hirawi

NC1008120094 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1030 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' is briefing President Ilyas al-Hirawi, Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri, and Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz on the results of U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's talks in Damascus. Minister al-Shar' arrived at the Lebanese-Syrian border this morning. He was received by Minister Buwayz, who accompanied him to the Presidential Palace. The talks between the two sides began at 1210 and dealt with the developments in the Middle East peace process in light of Secretary Christopher's tour of the region, which concluded yesterday. Christopher noted the possibility of making progress.

The Lebanese-Syrian talks focus on continuing coordination between Lebanon and Syria in the peace negotiations while insisting on a fair and comprehensive peace within the framework of the Madrid conference and the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions on Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon, western al-Biqa', and the Golan. Minister al-Shar' will hand a message to President al-Hirawi from President al-Asad.

Our correspondent in the Presidential Palace reports: [Begin unidentified correspondent recording] The meeting with Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' is continuing. A short while ago the Lebanese and Syrian delegations went for luncheon. Minister al-Shar' arrived at the Presidential Palace accompanied by his counterpart Buwayz at 1200. He was immediately received by President al-Hirawi. Prime Minister al-Hariri joined the meeting. On arrival at the Syrian-Lebanese border, where Minister Buwayz received him, al-Shar' said: I am carrying a message of greeting from His Excellency President al-Asad to his brother His Excellency President Ilyas al-Hirawi. The meeting lasted until 1315, when President al-Hirawi hosted a banquet in honor of al-Shar' attended by Prime Minister al-Hariri and Foreign Minister Buwayz. They will resume their talks over lunch on the latest developments in the region and the situation in the south in light of Christopher's visit and his talks on the situation in Lebanon and Syria and the peace process. Al-Shar' said he will speak at length on these issues after lunch and before he leaves. [end recording]

Views Christopher Talks, Israel

NC1008124394 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1140 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Report by Yazbik Wahbi from the Republican Palace]

[Text] The luncheon hosted by President Ilyas al-Hirawi in honor of Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' has just ended. Al-Shar' said: Within the framework of consultations, I conveyed to President al-Hirawi a message dealing with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's recent visit to Damascus. The message deals with the ideas that are being exchanged through Secretary Christopher and with the ways of achieving the just and comprehensive peace.

The Syrian minister reiterated his denunciation of the Israeli attacks and said that he conveyed this denunciation to the U.S. side. He expressed doubts about Israel's claim that the attack was a mistake. He said that the Lebanese and Syrian tracks are inseparable and that President al-Asad raised before Christopher the possibility of having a joint Lebanese-Syrian delegation in the negotiations. Here is what Minister al-Shar' had to say:

[Begin recording] [Al-Shar'] Civilians should not be shelled. The Lebanese resistance has repeatedly declared that it does not target innocent civilians. We in Syria believe that civilians should not be the target of violent acts and that the Lebanese resistance's shelling of civilians in retaliation for the shelling of civilians is a reaction to the Israeli actions and aggression. We believe that the Lebanese resistance has no interest in shelling northern Israel or in shelling civilian targets if the Israeli side stops shelling civilians. But the resistance remains a legitimate right for anyone whose territory is occupied by the enemy.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr. Minister, what is your comment on what happened on the Jordanian-Israeli track and do you think that Arab coordination is [word indistinct] between Lebanon and Syria?

[Al-Shar'] I do not wish to talk about what happened on the Jordanian-Israeli track. But I will mention what one citizen who stopped me this morning said to me: Is what is happening now and what we saw on the television screen yesterday between Jordan and Israel peace, or what? We are in fact interested in achieving a just and comprehensive peace based on international legitimacy in implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions. The actions on the other tracks do not negate the fact that there cannot be a real, just, and honorable peace without Syria and Lebanon. Otherwise, the region will not live in a real state of peace.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Al-Shar'] You know how close the Lebanese and Syrian tracks are because of the deep historic ties between the two countries. Therefore, the president did in fact raise this point before Christopher to stress these two tracks' commitment and he told him that Syria does not object to having a unified Syrian-Lebanese delegation even under the chairmanship of a Lebanese. This underlines the fact that Syria will not accept a unilateral solution that ignores Lebanon and Lebanese rights. We also feel that Lebanon itself will not embark on a separate solution that ignores the Syrian stand. [end recording]

Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz said after the meeting: What has happened so far cannot be regarded

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as the desired peace as long as it has not achieved the desired comprehensiveness. He added: There is complete agreement between us and Syria on how to deal with the negotiations, particularly under these international pressures. We and with the Syrian brothers stress the need for a comprehensive solution.

Holds News Conference in B'abda

NC1008182394 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 10 Aug 94

[News conference by Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' with unidentified correspondents at the Republican Palace in B'abda on 10 August—recorded]

[Text] [Al-Shar'] Within the framework of the consultations between the leaders of Syria and Lebanon, I conveyed to President Ilyas al-Hirawi and Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri a message from President Hafiz al-Asad dealing with the outcome of Christopher's recent visit to Damascus. I am prepared to answer your questions.

[Correspondent] Can you brief us on the contents of this message; and what are the results of Christopher's talks with President al-Asad regarding southern Lebanon?

[Al-Shar'] The message deals with the ideas that are being exchanged by Secretary Christopher. These ideas deal with how to push forward the peace process to a just and comprehensive solution in the region based on the UN Security Council resolutions. Naturally, the basic requirements of peace are the achievement of full Israeli withdrawal from occupied Golan and from southern Lebanon and the western al-Biqa'. This is a just demand with which we believe the U.S. side has become well acquainted. There are other elements linked to the peace process, such as security arrangements, a timetable for the withdrawal, and the phases of the withdrawal. All this is subject to discussion between Secretary Christopher and us, on one hand, and Secretary Christopher and the Israeli side on the other.

We would like to stress—and we have stressed this to the U.S. delegation in its capacity as sponsor of the peace process—that the issue of full withdrawal is not subject to bargaining and that the other requirements for a peace linked to full withdrawal are in fact demanded by all the parties concerned, not just one side. Therefore, these requirements must be fair and balanced and must serve the goal of a comprehensive, just, firm, and honorable peace in the region.

[Correspondent] What commitments has the Syrian side offered to the U.S. Secretary of State?

[Al-Shar'] We have affirmed our interest in implementing the Security Council resolutions and in achieving the requirements of peace, foremost of which is full withdrawal.

[Correspondent] Can you talk about progress in the Syrian-Israeli talks following Christopher's shuttle tours or has the situation remained unchanged since the suspension of the peace talks following the al-Haram al-Ibrahimi Mosque incident?

[Al-Shar'] We cannot say that tangible progress has been made. However, at the same time, a serious discussion is under way in a constructive spirit on all the components and requirements of peace.

[Correspondent] Has there been any change in Israel's stance?

[Al-Shar'] We are not sure yet that there has been a significant change in Israel's stance, unless Israel commits itself publicly and clearly to full withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories. However, at the same time, we got the feeling—as we were informed by Secretary Christopher—that the Israeli side is interested in following up on the peace process and not stopping at what has been achieved on the Palestinian and Jordanian tracks. The United States, the world community, and Israel too, realize that there can be no comprehensive peace in the region without a just solution on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks.

[Correspondent] From what Christopher has conveyed to you, is Israel still focusing on the security arrangements or the issue of the resistance?

[Al-Shar'] Security arrangements are being demanded by both sides—the Arab and Israeli sides. In fact, the Arab side needs firm security arrangements more than the Israeli side for several known reasons. As for the events in the south, our stand is clear. There are continuous and repeated Israeli attacks targeting civilians. We denounce these attacks. The Israeli side apologized for these attacks when we informed the Americans of our great resentment over Israel's shelling of civilians in Dayr al-Zahrani. The U.S. side informed us that the Israeli side had apologized and that what had happened was a mistake. However, we still have serious doubts about this mistake, especially as Israel claims and boasts that its army does not miss the targets it shells.

[Correspondent] Has an agreement been reached on stopping the operations and stopping the shelling in the south?

[Al-Shar'] There is nothing new on this. You know that a large-scale Israeli aggression against Lebanon took place in July 1993. The Lebanese resistance has also carried out quality operations against Israel. Civilians should not be shelled. The Lebanese resistance has repeatedly declared that it does not target innocent civilians. We in Syria also believe that civilians should not be the target of violent acts; but in the event Israel shells civilians, the Lebanese resistance will shell civilians as a tit-for-tat measure for the Israeli aggression. We believe that the Lebanese resistance has no interest in shelling northern Israel or in shelling civilian targets if the Israeli side stops shelling civilians. But resistance remains a legitimate right for anyone whose territory is occupied by enemies.

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[Correspondent] Can you comment on what happened on the Jordanian-Israeli track; and do you think Arab coordination is limited to that between Lebanon and Syria?

[Al-Shar'] I do not wish to talk about what happened on the Jordanian-Israeli track. But I will mention that one citizen who stopped me this morning said to me: Is what is happening now and what we saw o. the television screen yesterday between Jordan and Israel peace, or what? We are in fact interested in achieving a just and comprehensive peace based on international legitimacy in implementation of the relevant UN Security Council resolutions. The actions on the other tracks do not negate the fact that there cannot be a real, just, and honorable peace without Syria and Lebanon. Otherwise, the region will not live in a real state of peace.

[Correspondent] President al-Asad has demanded the formation of a joint Lebanese-Syrian delegation to the talks. Was this subject taken up with Christopher during his tour? Was this request approved?

[Al-Shar'] You know how close the Lebanese and Syrian tracks are because of the deep historic ties between the two countries. Therefore, the president did in fact raise this point to Christopher to stress these two tracks' parallel nature, and he told him that Syria does not object to having a unified Syrian-Lebanese delegation, even under the chairmanship of a Lebanese. This underlines the fact that Syria will not accept a unilateral solution that ignores Lebanon and Lebanese rights. We also feel that Lebanon itself will not embark on a separate solution that ignores Syria's stand.

Buwayz Holds News Conference

NC1008192094 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 10 Aug 94

[News conference by Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz with unidentified correspondents at the Republican Palace in B'abda on 10 August—recorded]

[Text] [Buwayz] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' briefed us on the ongoing talks between Syria and the United States. There is no doubt that our viewpoints converge on the evaluation, goal, and description of this phase. We believe only a comprehensive peace can live and survive. As I have previously stated, this is an Arab-Israeli conflict, not a conflict between one Arab state and Israel. Therefore, a comprehensive solution encompassing all parties remains a basic and necessary matter. So far, this solution has not encompassed basic parties from the historical, political, geographic, and moral point of view. Therefore, we believe what has happened thus far cannot be regarded as the desired solution or the desired peace as long this peace is not comprehensive and does not conform to the bases of the Madrid Conference and the peace initiative.

We and Syria have complete understanding on the current turn of events and on the method of dealing with these negotiations. Regardless of the circumstances and regardless of the international and regional climates, we will not forsake our legitimate rights. We demand a just, real, and normal peace which guarantees the rights and objectives of all.

[Correspondent] Have you been informed of the real reasons for Christopher's decision to stop visiting Lebanon during his Middle East tours?

[Al-Shar'] Secretary Christopher still believes he has a work program that requires him to untie one knot after another. In any case, we do not object to his starting where he considers it is necessary to make progress in the peace process. And as long as we believe in a comprehensive solution, we believe ultimately there is no reason for anyone to enter into a race over this issue. Either this issue will be crowned with a comprehensive peace one day—and we of course support this approach—or he who thinks he is ahead of the others in this race will wait around under the sun.

[Correspondent] Can it be said that what happened recently is a step on the road to a comprehensive and just peace?

[Buwayz] As Minister al-Shar' and Secretary Christopher have stated, there are psychological aspects. There is a need to clarify a number of problems. Discussion of these problems has developed in a serious and basic direction.

Cabinet Discusses Visit, Yuhmur

NC1108073594 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0430 GMT 11 Aug 94

["Statement" by Information Minister Michel Samahah following a cabinet meeting in Beirut; date not given—recorded]

[Text] At the outset of the meeting, President al-Hirawi reviewed the contacts Lebanon has held on the regional and international levels to address the Israeli acts of aggression against the south and western al-Biqa' and the new developments in the Syrian-U.S. contacts regarding the Arab-Israeli negotiations within the framework of the Madrid conference.

President al-Hirawi reviewed the results of the meetings he and Prime Minister al-Hariri held with Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' today and the content of the message al-Shar' conveyed from Syrian President al-Asad relating to U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's latest visit to Syria. In his message, President al-Asad stressed the constants of the Syrian stance in the negotiations, emphasizing that total withdrawal from the occupied Lebanese territory in the south and western al-Biqa' and the Golan is not a subject for bargaining within the framework of achieving a fair and comprehensive solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict in accordance with Security Council resolutions and international legitimacy.

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The cabinet also discussed the suffering of the steadfast town of Yuhmur, which is being besieged by Israeli forces, in light of the report prepared by Prime Minister al-Hariri and ministers following their visit to al-Nabatiyah Governorate and a meeting with the inhabitants of Yuhmur, who are staging a sit-in. The Cabinet decided to support the steadfastness of the town and its inhabitants by speeding up implementation of a water project, establishing a clinic, fixing roads, and streamlining educational issues.

Hizballah Fighters Attack Israeli-SLA Position

NC1008174294 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1635 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] REUTERS has cited a Hizballah source as saying that Hizballah's fighters have attacked the Tallat Kawkaba position manned by Israeli occupation forces and Lahd's [South Lebanese Army] forces. The source said an Islamic Resistance group attacked this position today with RPG's and machine guns. There were no reports of casualties among the Israelis and SLA men, while Hizballah asserted that none of its members were injured in the attack.

Israeli and SLA artillery intermittently shelled the vicinities of the towns of Qilya, al-Dallafah, and Jabal al-Dhahr in the western part of the al-Biqa' Valley.

Israeli Helicopters Overfly Ba'labakk

NC1008213394 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Today our correspondent in al-Biqa' reports that at 2300 [2000 GMT] Israeli helicopters flew at low altitude for 10 minutes over Al-Nabi Shit, Janta, Sahl Ba'labakk, and Sahl Timnin in Central al-Biqa'. Heavy ground fire was opened on the helicopters, forcing them to retreat in the direction of the Sannin Hills and then the sea.

'Warplanes' Overfly Beirut

NC1108090894 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Text] Israeli warplanes overflew Beirut and the south shortly after 1000 this morning, breaking the sound barrier.

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'Senior Sources' on al-Asad-Christopher Talks

JN1008170294 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 8 Aug 94 p 1

[Report by Muwaffaq Madani and agencies]

[Text] Damascus—Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad held a meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher yesterday. Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and U.S. Special Middle East Coordinator Dennis Ross attended. The U.S. secretary of state reviewed with al-Asad the outcome of his talks with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin in occupied Jerusalem.

Informed sources in Damascus told AL-BAYAN that the talks addressed the means to promote the peace talks on the Syrian track, curbing Lebanese resistance, and terrorism.

The sources added that the Syrian leadership expressed willingness to discuss Syrian-U.S. ties, but in isolation of the talks with Israel. The Syrian leadership also reiterated its condemnation of international terrorism, and explained that the Lebanese resistance has the right to fight occupation troops. Likewise, the Syrian leadership asserted that the Lebanese resistance was not involved in the recent terrorist operations carried out in Argentina and Britain.

Senior sources in Damascus have ruled out the possible achievement of progress on the Syrian track during Christopher's current tour of the region. This is because the Syrian leadership clung to its demand that Israel express a commitment to complete withdrawal from the Golan, and rejected the "tit for tat" approach Israel proposed.

The senior sources added that a media campaign might be launched soon to hold Syria responsible for the failure of Christopher's tour of the region. The sources noted that this campaign will be led by several quarters which claim that Damascus, in the aftermath of the Oslo agreement and the Washington Declaration, has only one option.

The same sources said that Syria has several options. These sources ruled out a dramatic development on the Syrian track, similar to the dramatic developments seen on the Palestinian-Israeli and Jordanian-Israeli tracks. The sources made it clear that Syria is keen to hold public negotiations with Israel on the basis of the relevant international resolutions.

Diplomatic sources have said that Christopher is seeking to achieve agreement on a declaration of principles between Syria and Israel, one that includes an Israeli acknowledgement of Syrian sovereignty over the Golan Heights in return for a Syrian commitment to full peace. According to the proposal carried by Christopher, Syria also has to accept the formation of Syrian-Israeli negotiation committees, to upgrade the level of the peace talks negotiators, and to agree to a phased withdrawal.

However, Syrian radio said that it is impossible to break the logjam plaguing the peace talks on the Syrian-Israeli track of negotiations unless Israel commits itself to withdrawal, and to compliance with the terms of reference agreed upon for the peace process, which provide for the implementation of the relevant UN resolutions. The radio added that Israel's failure to do so will only mean that it is wasting the time of the U.S. Administration. This Israeli conduct will also kill the current opportunity for comprehensive peace in the region, the radio added.

Dailies Reiterate Stand on Peace Process

JN1108075194 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0500 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Remote Hope," the newspaper AL-THAWRAH says: The success of the peace process first and foremost depends on Israel's compliance with the resolutions of international legitimacy and on its acceptance of full withdrawal from the Golan, southern Lebanon, and the other occupied territories.

The paper adds: Israel has not committed itself to any of these requirements. It still wagers on partial and separate solutions and tries to open new loopholes in the Arab ranks in the hope that it can spread separate deals to all negotiating tracks. Moreover, the Israeli officials still publicly announce that Israel will not return to the 4 June 1967 borders, remove the settlements, or go back on the Judaization and annexation of Jerusalem.

AL-THAWRAH asserts that Syria continues to show eagerness to make use of this opportunity for peace and prevent its loss. Perhaps, U.S. Secretary Christopher sensed this eagerness during his frequent visits to Syria.

Concluding, the paper says: Syria will continue to adhere to the peace option, which it adopted out of full conviction, in order to regain its territory and rights. It will also continue to advocate a comprehensive and just solution because it is the basic pillar of real peace in the region.

Under the headline "The Path of Peace," the newspaper TISHRIN says: The Syrian position on the peace process enjoys a wide pan-Arab support because it adheres to the Arab nation's interests, hopes, and objectives. It also refuses to sell out the territories and rights or to be dragged into the secret negotiations and separate deals Israel proposes.

The paper discusses the tragic situation of the Palestinian Arab people due to the conclusion of separate deals. The Palestinian people are still under occupation, are denied their rights, and are subjected to fierce Israeli repression at a time when Jerusalem is being annexed and Judaized.

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TISHRIN says that Syria still warns against Israel's proposals and malicious ways designed to fragment the Arab position and single out each Arab party. In this regard, the paper says: Syria has always adhered to the bases of the peace process and to the Security Council resolutions because they can guarantee the desired just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

In its editorial, the newspaper AL-BA'TH says: The basic problem on the Syrian track still lies in Israel's attempt to keep the occupied territories and barter them for the objectives Israel wanted to achieve through wars. Israel is now trying to achieve these objectives through negotiations.

The paper adds: Syria has always said clearly that the fate of the peace talks primarily depends on Israel's readiness to withdraw completely from the territories occupied in the 1967 aggression. Unless Israel declares its readiness to withdraw from these territories, talks on the Syrian track cannot move forward. This is a basic issue; Syria will not abandon it or bargain over it.

AL-BA'TH asserts that in both the Washington talks and its talks with Secretary Christopher, Syria announced its readiness to achieve full peace in return for full withdrawal. Syria will not yield to pressure regarding basic issues. It adheres to pan-Arab principles that cannot be amended regardless of Israel's maneuvers and procrastination.

On the U.S. role in the peace process, the paper says: Everyone hopes that the United States will not respond to Israeli pressure regarding basic issues. The United States has frequently responded to Israeli demands. The paper holds the United States fully and directly responsible for the peace process because it unleashed the peace initiative and sponsored the peace talks.

AL-BA'TH urges the United States to play an effective and unbiased role. This role should be biased only toward peace and international legitimacy. It should not be biased toward a certain party. The paper adds: If the United States is really interested in achieving a settlement in the region before the end of this year, as some U.S. officials say, it should convince its strategic ally, Israel, to implement and honor both the resolutions of international legitimacy and the bases of the peace process.

The paper believes that when the United States convinces Israel to declare its acceptance of the bases of the peace process, the door will then be wide open for the U.S. Administration to say that it has placed its initiative on the right path. The paper also believes that the United States—which has an alliance with Israel and which extends Israel its means of support, continued aid, and military and other guarantees—is completely capable of making the Israeli rulers comply with the bases of the U.S. initiative in order to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

Al-Shar' Returns After Beirut Visit

JN1008181594 Damascus Syrian Arab Television Network in Arabic 1730 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' returned to Damascus this afternoon after a short visit to Beirut. Present to bid him farewell at the Syrian-Lebanese border were Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz and a number of senior Lebanese Foreign Ministry officials.

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Afghanistan

Foreign Countries Said 'Fomenting Tension'

LD1008201494 Tehran IRNA in English 1921 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Islamabad, Aug. 10, IRNA—Afghan Government has alleged that "some circles" of foreign countries are fomenting tension in the war-ravaged country.

"There are some well-known countries who sprinkle oil on the fire so as to create tension and thus disturb the peace process in Afghanistan," said a statement issued by the Afghan Foreign Ministry and released here by Afghan Embassy.

The statement, however, did not specify the countries which it alleged are meddling in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.

The Afghan Government, said the statement, while expressing concern over the foreign interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, "insists that war in Afghanistan is not only an internal matter but it has foreign demensions as well".

The cooperation of United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) [Islamic Conference Organization] in stopping foreign intervention in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, the statement said, was sought and desired by the recent meeting in Herat.

An envoy of Afghan President Borhanoddin Rabbani recently urged UN and OIC to depute their observers at Afghan borders to check the flow of "foreign assistance", in the form arms and ammunition to its rival groups in Afghanistan.

Pakistan's foreign office spokesman opposed the demand suggesting Afghan Government to deploy its own personnel on its side of the border to curb any such "assistance".

Relations between Pakistan and the Afghan Government recently strained because of the reported tilt of the Rabbani regime towards India, Islamabad's sworn enemy.

Reports in the Pakistani media say that India was providing military assistance to the Afghan Government.

The Afghan Government led by President Borhanoddin Rabbani has been locked in fierce fighting with forces of Prime Minister Golboddin Hekmatyar since the start of this year.

High Session of Ministers Proceedings Reported

LD1008184594 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] A high session of ministers held this morning was presided over by esteemed Engineer Ahmad Shah Ahmadzai, minister of city planning and housing. The press office of the premiership reported to BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY that in the meeting various issues were taken under consideration, and after due discussion, decisions were made. The session resolved that a commission of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Civil Aviation and Tourism should look into the circumstances of the activities of Ariana Afghan Airlines. It should prepare requisite facilities for regular Kabul-Pakistan flights, and should execute them. The session heard ministries' proposals on visits abroad and on budget issues; necessary decision were made in this respect.

Similarly, presided over by esteemed Hamidollah Tarzi, adviser minister of the premiership in economic affairs, a commission including the representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Planning, and Justice should draft, in one week, in understanding with (?sector) ministries regulations for the activities of non-state home and foreign institutions, and shall present it to the institute of drafting laws. This draft by the Ministry of Justice shall then be presented to the earliest session of ministers.

Dostam Militia Commander Reportedly Defects

LD1008183794 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Excerpt] A commander of Dostam's militia and his men joined the mojahedin and forces of the Islamic army in Samangan Province today. An Armed Forces source reported to the BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY that Nematollah, a commander of Dostam's militia, along with his 20 men, joined mojahedin and Islamic army forces in Dara-e Suf, Samangan Province this morning. [passage omitted]

India

Better Control Over Spy Agencies Urged

BK1008140094 Delhi THE ECONOMIC TIMES in English 6 Aug 94 p 6

[Article by Bhashyam Kasturi: "Intelligence Agencies: No control?"]

[Text] Intelligence activity by itself requires a cloak of secrecy and the organisations which perform these are usually kept under wraps from the public gaze. At the same time, excess secrecy can create problems for the proper control of such agencies and it works against the establishment of trust between the policy maker and those involved in the intelligence process. The distance between the intelligence professional and policy maker, if too close can lead to corruption of the former. If for reasons of secrecy it is too far, there is a chance that the intelligence organisation may overstep its limits and undertake operations detrimental to the national

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interest. Therefore, the task of controlling the intelligence process and activity is inherently difficult.

Control is a term that describes the channels or lines of command through which a commander's order pass on to his or her forces. The control of intelligence extends to two spheres. First to overall control. This includes administrative and organisational control. Secondly, there exists control of the intelligence process. This involves collection, collation and dissemination of intelligence. In the first case, the support and services that are part of an agency, like covert operations, are also controlled. Formal legalistic, constitutional, parliamentary or budgetary measures have been used to control intelligence. In UK for instance, the secret service (MI-6) is controlled by a Cabinet sub-committee under the chairmanship of the permanent undersecretary of the foreign office. And in 1989, Britain enacted the Security Service Act, which clearly lays down the charter for the secret service. Similarly, in America there are a number of laws making the intelligence agencies more accountable and placing a certain amount of restraint on them.

It is important to note that control can be achieved from both within and without. In cases mentioned above, emphasis is largely on control from without. From within there are means of achieving control which concentrate on patterns of norms and values which govern the daily functioning of intelligence agencies. In this, it becomes necessary to evolve means by which inputs on how professionals within see their job can be used to structure control mechanisms. This is one way of ensuring responsiveness.

Ideally, a system which allows for a two-way mutual accommodation of interests is best. Here, control requires something of the individual or agency being controlled and also something from those exercising control.

The situation in India is neither here or there. There is an element of everything, but clearly there is no legal or constitutional control of intelligence agencies. Each organisation is a mini-empire of its own. There is no scarcity of resources, both in terms of money and manpower. Paradoxically, in some cases, there is too much autonomy and in some cases too much involvement of controllers. R&AW [Research and Analysis Wing], for instance, operates much of the time in a secretive world answerable to no one. One end result of such autonomy was the Sri Lankan fiasco.

On the other hand, the over-involvement of controllers in IB [Intelligence Bureau] has led to the intelligence process becoming politicised. This has led to the production of intelligence to please. This in turn leads to gaps in information in areas like terrorism and small arms proliferation. Further, improper command and control leads to overlapping of functions and overstepping of limits. Intelligence organisations in India have a fairly clear delineation of their sphere of activity. Despite this one often finds agencies tasked with gathering external intelligence or border intelligence intruding on the spheres of influence of other agencies and indulging in political intelligence. Use of the SFF [expansion unknown] and SSB [Special Security Bureau] in covert operations in Assam, and Darjeeling in 1986-87 was clearly a case of over involvement of controllers, in this case their political controllers.

Therefore, control must ensure accountability for actions taken. It is not in the interests of our nation for secret services to perform tasks like destabilising state governments. Control of intelligence in India is largely executive and has an element of political control. There exist no legal, constitutional or parliamentary checks. Even budgetary controls are non-existent. In this situation, another problem crops up. Since each agency has its own authority stemming from the executive depending on its sphere of action, it strongly holds its cards close to its chest.

Information thus becomes power and in turn each agency seeks to have direct access to the policy maker. This in turn means bypassing all other control and coordinating organisations. In India, the best example of this can be seen in the virtual non-use of the Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC). The JIC is the coordinating body for all intelligence, but it lacks the regulatory authority to make other agencies coordinate. So each agency gets direct access to the PMO [Prime Minister's Office]. This results in a multitude of intelligence reaching the top, with no clear cut picture for the policy maker.

Another fall out of this empire-building has been the total lack of input sharing. To cite one example. During the army operations in Assam, it was discovered that IB, MI [Military Intelligence] and other intelligence agencies got the same information for a particular operation from the same source. Without knowing it, each agency paid the source for the information. The end result—a lot of money down the drain—without anything to show for it. A comic situation, but showing up the glaring inadequacy of control and coordination.

As mentioned earlier, control of intelligence is at various levels. Mostly depending on the charter of their activities. But all agencies are coordinated at the level of the JIC, which itself comes under the cabinet secretariat. But with each agency directly 'reporting' to the cabinet secretariat, the JIC gets pushed to the background. It does not meet too often and lacks adequate support, to do its job. In the aftermath of the '71 war the JIC did a policy paper on the functioning of various agencies. The paper was not to see the light of the day and many agencies cold shouldered the paper, thus reducing the effectiveness of a good after-action report.

One of the means by which intelligence in India can be controlled is by bringing it under Parliament's scrutiny. After all, most ministries and departments get Parliament's approval for their budgetary allocations. A select committee of Parliament can be formed, comprising of

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members who know the ways of the secret service. If creation of new organisations is seen as improbable, it is time to strengthen existing control organisations like the JIC. Making the secret services accountable to the JIC in a number of ways will curb the impulse of the secret services to act beyond their domain and authority. Along with this, it is essential to reduce the influence of political controllers on intelligence organisations. In fact, the two main problems preventing proper control of such organisations politicisation and bureaucratisation. A first step that is very essential is to enact legislation in Parliament clearly stating the objectives and mission profiles of intelligence agencies. Many will argue that secrecy and security will be jeopardised. But that argument is fallacious. As the matter under discussion would not be regarding organisation or operations, but broader issues. This is an essential prerequisite for the proper command and control of intelligence agencies in India.

Iran

Allegations on Argentine Bombing Denied, Viewed

Judge Said To Reject Charges

LD0908202894 Tehran IRNA in English 1919 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Tehran, Aug 9, IRNA—Although the Buenos Aires federal judge, Juan Jose Galeano, has refuted charges against Iran as baseless and rejected the charge that Iran was involved in the recent blast in Jewish center in Buenos Aires, the pro-Zionist news media go ahead with putting the blame on Iran.

In a fully coordinated propaganda campaign, news agencies of UNITED PRESS, REUTER and ASSOCIATED PRESS renewed their claim that Iran was involved in the Buenos Aires blast on July 18.

The agencies, quoting an Argentinian court source who requested to be anonymous, reported Iran's involvement in the bombing.

The Zionist-orchestrated propaganda launched only a day after Galeano's statement in which he refuted Iran's collaboration in the incident, rather indicates the Zionist concern over failure of their propaganda plot against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

While exonerating Iran from the alleged charges, Galeano's comments startled the Zionists and made them rethink their pre-fabricated strategies toward Iran.

Earlier informed political sources were of the opinion that the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) of the U.S. and the Zionists' inteligence service (Mosad) were behind the propaganda campaign against Iran.

Judge Galeano's report indicated that the primary charges against Iran stemmed from a report by CIA and an Iranian member of CIA.

The phrases like "in case of substantiation of the reports on Iran's involvement" or "if it is proved that ..." which frequently appears in the news by the said agencies were themselves evidence of baselessness of their claims.

Whereas Argentinian foreign minister, Guido di Tella, has fully rejected Iran's involvement in the explosion of Buenos Aires' Jewish center, certain dailies and Zionist organizations continue their contradictory statements attributing the blast to Iran without any documented evidence.

For instance, Argentina's federal police has announced that it has obtained evidence which point out to the involvement of the Zionists in the July 18th bombing.

Following interrogations of suspected detainees, the police department held the view that the blast was a pre-planned scenario by Zionists in a bid to achieve certain political goals.

While all the suspects are of different nationalities from Latin America, it is interesting that hands were at work to introduce a country on the other side of the globe, Iran, as responsible for the crime, an Argentinian police official has told reporters.

Informant's Claims Denied

LD1108082694 Tehran IRNA in English 2047 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 10, IRNA—In the wake of the claim of Manuchehr Mo'tamer of having been in charge of the bureau of the former minister of culture and Islamic guidance, 'Ali Larijani, who is now president of the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB), the office of Larijani said here today that Mo'tamer had no relation with the Culture and Islamic Guidance Ministry and no precedent was obtained. The statement from the IRIB president's office added that Mo'tamer had no employment, relation or even presence in the said ministry.

In previous contradictory statements Mo'tamer said things which were indicative of the psychological war against the Islamic Republic of Iran. Earlier he claimed that he was a Foreign Ministry diplomat and a government empoyee and had important information about Islamic Republic. Motamer, 48 years, had a shop at the Enqelab Square of Esfahan, before he travelled on an ordinary passport to Turkey and from there to Cuba and Venezuela. In Venezuela, he sought help from the Iranian Embassy and was helped.

After forging accusations against the Islamic Republic he was supported by the Venezuelan Government and now he lives in an unknown place.

Press Release Issued at UN

LD1108081494 Tehran IRNA in English 0705 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Text] United Nations, New York, Aug. 11, IRNA—Iran's mission at the United Nations in a press release

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Wednesday rejected the unfounded charges levelled by an Argentine judge in charge of investigating the recent bombing in Buenos Aires and strongly objected to the discourteous treatment of Iran and defamation of Iranian officials. The press release followed an official note verbale submitted to the Argentine Embassy in Tehran by the Iranian Foreign Ministry.

The release said that the Argentine judge's decision to level the unfounded allegations against Iranian officials was reportedly based on information provided by a Mr. Manuchehr Mo'tamer.

The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran has categorically rejected Mo'tamer's claims of being an Iranian diplomat first, later a deputy minister of Islamic guidance and now a secretary to the minister and provided full details of his identity, occupation as a shopkeeper and his fraudulent records, the release said.

Turning to a press statement issued by the office of the UNHCR representative in Venezuela on August 18, 1994, on Mo'tamer and his family in which it questioned the identity and claims of Mo'tamer, the release quoted the UNHCR press statement as concluding "since then, developments and further information received in regard to this case necessitates a further examination of aspects of the asylum-seeker's identity and the credibility of certain claims. UNHCR is in contact with the relevant authorities in this regard."

The mission added in its press release, "Hence, the source upon which the Argentine judge has reportedly relied is seriously questionable." It also said, "more importantly, the identification of four Iranian officials as allegedly involved in the explosion by Mr. Mo'tamer ... clearly proves beyond the shadow of a doubt that not only the Argentine judge's source is an unreliable individual and an imposter but also his information is devoid of any factual merit."

The press release said that the four Iranian officials who have falsely been accused had departed Argentina between October 1988 and December 1993. Of the four Iranian officials, said the press release, Mr. Gholamreza Mahvash Monsef departed Argentina in October 1988, Mr. 'Abbas Zarrabi-Khorasani departed Argentina in March 1990, Mr. Ahmad Allameh Falsafi in September 1992 and Mr. Akbar Parvaresh, a deputy in the Iranian parliament (Majlis) made a four day official visit to Argentina from 3 to 6 December 1993 when he met with the members of several committees of the Argentine parliament.

Argentina Urged To Present Evidence

LD1108084894 Tehran IRNA in English 0809 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Text] United Nations, New York, Aug. 11, IRNA—Iran Wednesday expressed concern over the unwarranted and unjustified comments made by certain Argentine officials against the Iranian ambassador, diplomats and officials and sought clarification with regard to those comments. In a press release, the Iranian mission at the United Nations said that the Argentine Charge d'Affaires Martin A. Rivolta was summoned to the Iranian Foreign Ministry for the second time within the preceding twelve hours. It said that the Argentine Government was officially called upon to present any evidence and/or documents it possesses concerning the unfounded allegations against Iranian nationals.

The Argentine Government was informed of the intention of the four Iranian nationals who have been falsely accused of involvement in the bombing to file a defamation suit in order to clear their names, said the press release. It added that they have sought assistance from the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Turning to the meeting of the Iranian Ambassador to Buenos Aires Hadi Soleymanpur with Argentinian foreign minister on Wednesday, it said that the ambassador underlined the points raised with the Argentine charge d'affaires in Tehran and requested a copy of the report of the Argentine judge in charge of the investigation of Buenos Aires bombing which had been the source of unfounded allegations againt a number of Iranian nationals.

Soleymanpur also provided further information to Argentine foreign minister Guido di Tella on the unreliability of the source of Argentine judge's report, i.e., Manuchehr Mo'tamer.

Israel, U.S. Said Responsible

LD1108102294 Tehran IRNA in English 1011 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 11, IRNA—The Islamic Republic of Iran considers the U.S. and Israel as major elements behind the recent baseless accusations of an Argentine judge against Iran in connection with the Buenos Aires bombing. An official at Iran's Foreign Ministry Wednesday afternoon told IRNA, "There are ample evidences that even weeks prior to the explosion, Israeli authorities in order to coordinate their efforts to achieve desirable objectives, had dispatched individuals to Buenos Aires. They knew that allegations on Iran's involvement in the bomb blast could not be easily inculcated in the world public opinion."

The source added: "Despite efforts of the Israelis who enjoy backing of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), judicial and police officials of Argentina in follow up of the case have arrested suspects from Latin America. This further reveals that in the absence of pressures by U.S. and Israel, the result of investigations would not please the U.S. and Israel."

Dr. Javad Qanbari, a political science scholar in Latin American affairs told IRNA that "the Israelis had misused weakness of the Argentine Government and

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without having any documented evidence in their possession had repeatedly attributed the Buenos Aires bombing to Iran."

"After the role of Israeli and U.S. in distorting the trend of investigation about the bombing is being unveiled, the world public opinion would not believe the accusations against Iran," he said. [punctuation as received] Dr. Qanbari further noted that from the legal point of view a party would not be recognized guilty merely on the basis of the unfounded claims of the other party. "The Americans and Israelis know the main objective behind recent accusations against Iran better than any one else," he added.

Menem 'Hasty Remarks' Cited

LD1108104294 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Text] Britain's state-run radio this morning announced: The Argentine president, Carlos Menem, shortly after his remarks last night linking Iran to the bombing incident in Buenos Aires, said that he made his remarks hastily and as a reaction. According to BBC radio, Menem said last night that the Iranian ambassador in Argentina should either leave or be recalled by Iran. In explaining his hasty remarks, the Argentine president said the outcome of investigations was the reason for his remarks.

Meanwhile, following the empty accusations against a number of Iranian diplomats concerning the recent incident in Buenos Aires, our correspondent today telephoned the Argentine Embassy in Tehran. He asked for an interview with the charge d'affaires of that country. The Argentine charge d'affaires, through the embassy secretary, announced: The Government and Embassy of Argentina have no comments to make on this matter. He said: The Buenos Aires incident is being handled by the Argentine Public Prosecutor's office.

Our correspondent again asked him: So why have government officials of your country made some new remarks. He simply said: The Argentine Foreign Ministry has not given us permission to comment on the Buenos Aires incident.

'Smear' Campaign Alleged

LD1008114594 Tehran IRNA in English 1123 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] London, Aug. 10, IRNA—The world Zionist movement has continued to exploit its domination of the international media by intensifying its campaign to try to link Iran with the recent bombing of Jewish targets in Buenos Aires and London.

The campaign, based upon innuendoes and unattributed sources, has been built up over the past month in a series of unsubstantiated allegations that shows the journalistic profession at its most discreditable worst.

Its deceitful battle to sway minds depends upon emotive language and the technique of conjuring up traditional bigotry by selectively taking information out-of-context and deliberately ignoring unwanton [as received] detail damaging to its cause.

In the latest attempt in the London EVENING STANDARD, former diplomatic editor of the JEWISH CHRONICLE, Joseph Finklestone, like his colleagues, resorts to claims made by unnamed "senior Israeli sources" to smear Iran with the London and Buenos Aires bombings.

Names of Iranian diplomats supposedly linked with the attack on the head office of an Argentinian Jewish group on July 18 were revealed by an already discredited Iranian defector, who he said had been identified by Israeli intelligence, Mosad.

By coincidence, the Zionist reporter also discloses that Ari'el Nitzcaner, the Argentinian owner of a garage, which police reportedly believe was used to load a mini-van with explosives, was Jewish.

The depths that Israel and its supporters are stooping to discredit Iran leaves the suspicion that the Zionist regime itself may be implicated in the wave of terror, which it usually reserves for Palestinians and Lebanese.

Charges Said Part of 'Strategy'

LD1008123494 Tehran IRNA in English 1157 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 10, IRNA—The Zionist regime's smear campaign aimed at linking Iran to the recent bomb blasts in London and Buenos Aires indicates the magnitude of the plots hatched by Zionist circles against the Islamic Republic. Political experts believe that since the end of the Iraqi imposed war on Iran, the Zionist regime has been seeking to plunge the Islamic Republic in an international crisis.

For this purpose, the Tel Aviv regime has been trying over the past few years to attribute any crisis in the four corners of the world to the Islamic Republic and Muslim combatants linked with Iran.

In their scenario, Zionist circles have predicted that they should raise the danger posed by Iran's alleged support for terrorism, attribute all acts of sabotage and kidnapping taking place worldwide, to Tehran and repeat this claim through mass media that no other countries in the world is so dangerous as Iran.

In order to insure the success of its strategy, the Zionist regime is seeking three goals, namely:

To raise the claim that Iran is supporting international terrorism and training terrorists,

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To tell the world that Iran's threat to the oil resources of the Persian Gulf is much more critical than the conditions which led to the war between the allied forces and Iraq, and to persuade the world that it was not very difficult to make a military offensive against Iran.

In the opinion of political experts, the UAE's baseless claims regarding the three Iranian islands in the Persian Gulf, the hue and cry over Iran's alleged involvement in a bomb blast in the world trade center in New York, in Argentina and in London and allegation of Iran's link with the IRA and Zapatista rebels in Mexico are all in line with Israeli plots to wage a psychological warfare against Islamic Iran.

The anti-Islamic Republic propaganda reached its peak when a bomb ripped through a Jewish center in Buenos Aires prompting Israeli officials and then Argentine authorities to accuse Iran withougt offering any evidence. Following the bomb explosion, the Israeli housing minister announced that Tel Aviv should declare war on Iran.

Many freedom loving reporters throughout the world have so far contacted IRNA bureaux in European countries to warn that there were evidence that the Zionists and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) were now busy hatching various plots against the Islamic Republic.

The reporters, [words indistinct] influence on many western mass media, maintained that people and intellectual circles in Europe did not believe the claims being raised against Islamic Iran.

Such statements by impartial people support the fact that the propaganda campaign launched by Zionists have not produced their desired results and have, on many occasions, backfired, further revealing the true nature of the Zionists.

U.S. Pressure Alleged

LD1008154694 Tehran IRNA in English 1455 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Athens, Aug. 10, IRNA—A prominent Egyptian Islamic writer said the United States put pressure on both Argentina and Britian to blame Iran for the bombings in Buenos Aires and London to please the Zionist state.

"The U.S. puts pressure on Argentina and the British Government to condemn Iran. The reply from Argentina and London is that there is no evidence or suspicion of Iranian involvement. But the U.S. continues in its false accusations to please its darling Israel," wrote Dr. Mustafa Mahmud in his weekly column in the Saturday issue of Egyptian daily AL AHRAM.

He underlined that the Zionist state would never feel safe and secure unless all Islamic forces in the region were destroyed.

"The result is continued oppression of Muslims just becasue they are Muslims," he noted.

Referring to the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina Mahmud denounced the Western world for not taking any action against the Serbs although they were constantly rejecting all agreements and even killing U.N. soldiers.

"If the Bosnian Muslims had refused the agreement the whole world would have turned against them, and had a Muslim bullet killed a British soldier Britian would have eliminated them," he added.

Allegations Called 'Propaganda'

LD1108111494 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0953 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Station commentary]

[Text] Due to the unexpectedly hasty move of Argentinian officials in attributing the bomb explosion incident in the Jewish center in Buenos Aires to Iranian diplomats, the Argentinian charge d'affaires in Tehran was for the second time summoned to the Foreign Affairs Ministry at 0200 [2130 GMT 10 August], so as to account for his government's allegations against Iran.

An official from our country's Foreign Affairs Ministry told the Argentine diplomat that his government should quickly submit any evidence or document that it may possess in connection with the recent unfounded allegations.

The wave of extensive propaganda against Iran, with the aim of provoking world public opinion and portraying Iran as a sponsor of terrorism, began on 18 July, that is after the explosion of a bomb in a Zionist center in Buenos Aires. In this connection, the first allegation against Iran was put forward by the Zionist regime's health minister. On the same day, immediately after the bomb explosion incident and without any investigation or submitting any evidence, a wave of propaganda started with the aim of accusing the Islamic Republic of Iran. In response to this propaganda, the spokesman of our country's Foreign Affairs Ministry on 19 July categorically denied Iran's involvement in the bomb explosion in the Zionist center. Moreover, he said that the remarks by the Zionist regime's official in accusing other countries were aimed at attaining that regime's illegitimate political objectives.

One day later, on 20 July, the eminent leader [Khamene'i] made some important remarks and referred to the great tragedy which the world has had to face. He stressed that the contemporary world was besieged by the Zionists' state-sponsored terrorism, backed by Western governments. The eminent leader alluded to the fact that resorting to terrorism was the result of a

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particular state's ill reputation and its lack of logical thought. He then categorically denied Iran's involvement in acts of terrorism.

Despite all this, the wave of attacks against Iran intensified after 26 July, that is after the explosion of a bomb in the Zionist regime's embassy in London, and the propaganda has continued to be intense ever since.

The majority of political analysts believe that creating tension against Iran through propaganda is for the purpose of enabling the Zionists to attain their illegitimate political objectives in the Middle East and the further process of compromise. In the past, also, the world had witnessed the criminal acts of the Zionists in blowing up a Christian church in Beirut, and even the bomb explosion incident in that regime's embassy in Argentina in 1371 [Iranian year ending 21 March 1993].

What is important at the present juncture though is the hastily adopted posture of the Argentine officials towards the recent events. This shows that Buenos Aires officials are apparently affected by pressures exerted by the Zionists. This will, however, mar Argentina's international reputation.

Deputy Foreign Minister on Christopher Tour

NC1108064794 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0330 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Text] This week the U.S. secretary of state returned to the Middle East to reactivate the halted Syrian-Israeli talks and to accelerate the process for a Middle East solution. During this trip Christopher pursued another major objective—the annihilation of the anti-Zionist Resistance in Lebanon. Our colleague Qoroqi interviewed the deputy foreign minister for Arab and African affairs yesterday and asked him to examine the outcome of the visit.

Sheykholeslam described the U.S. secretary of state's recent Middle East tour as unsuccessful and expressed the opinion that in view of Washington's increasing support for Tel Aviv, the White House has relinquished the role of mediator in the talks and is acting as a representative of the Zionist regime. Another part of the interview assessed U.S. efforts to urge Syria to create limitations for Lebanese Hizballah.

[Begin recording] [Qoroqi] Christopher has said that in his talks with Hafiz al-Asad he discussed ways to harness Hizballah. In view of Syria's positive stance in the past, how do you assess these comments?

[Sheykholeslam] This topic was on the agenda imposed by the Israelis on America. It is an irrelevant issue. Hizballah and the Islamic Resistance represent a force that is fighting for Lebanon's liberation. Syria has understood this well and, during talks, it has propounded the issue of Hizballah and of the Islamic Resistance away from the basic Middle East issues, that is, Israel's unconditional and immediate withdrawal from the Golan and from south Lebanon.

I think this issue was the major topic of discussion among the Americans—Christopher—during this visit [as heard]. Christopher said this in his interview and also said he was dissatisfied with Syria's approach, which is why he did not return to Damascus.

This was intended to prove that this topic was a prominent issue concerning general interests. Of course I do not believe this. But they say that this concerns the general interests as far as a compromise with Israel is concerned and involves ending the hostility between the neighbors of Palestine and the occupying government. But the mode of action and the diplomacy show that they do not believe this either. These are temporary Israeli interests, which are being pursued. The parties are refraining from achieving long-term results right now. [end recording]

Mohtashami on Relations, Trade with U.S.

NC1008190394 Tehran SALAM in Persian 27 Jul 94 p 9

["Text" of interview with Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin 'Ali Akbar Mohtashami, formerly Tehran Majles deputy and ambassador to Syria, with unidentified SALAM correspondent in Tehran; date not given]

[Excerpts] [SALAM] What is your opinion regarding the broadening of economic relations with the United States? Do you endorse these expanding relations and consider them correct?

[Mohtashami] It is possible that there are some individuals who—due to their inability to get complete information or out of sheer optimism or superficiality—are unable to make a precise and multifaceted analysis of Iran's domestic and foreign situation. They bow down to baseless opinions and are deceived by influential but bankrupt Westernized selfish elements. Because of their simplemindedness they may come forward in favor of trade relations with the Archsatan. However, anyone with a fair understanding of the arrogant nature of the world-devouring United States can never endorse trade relations with it, much less broadening of relations!!

Of course, the simplistic, gullible types who are bereft of intelligence, understanding and do not make an in-depth political analysis of the situation, blindly accept the rhetoric of the ignorant or shrewd agents of the enemy and parrot it thoughtlessly. In my opinion, it would be appropriate if we succinctly discuss this sort of reasoning by the proponents of economic relations with the United States. They contend that the United States has all the economic and commercial resources of the world in its hands. Whether we do it directly or indirectly, we end up dealing with the United States, which implies that we do have indirect relations with the United States. So would it not be better if we established direct relations with the United States?

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The second line of reasoning is that we need the technology—that is, advanced technology—which is in American hands and it is only by establishing relations with the United States that we can gain access to this technology! Both these premises are false.

In answer to the first argument by those in favor of business relations with the United States, I will say: The concept that all the economic resources of the world are in U.S. hands and that only the United States can resolve our problems is a major error. The Americans themselves are facing massive socioeconomic crises in their country. How can a country which is plagued with problems and shortcomings be able to resolve others' problems? [passage omitted with Persian poem]

Today we have inherited the problems and complications of countries with which we forged close and broadening commercial relations. The reasons for the disarray and economic crises in this country, in addition to the weaknesses of management, are first and foremost the economic policies and programs of our country which have taken it to the verge of bankruptcy and second, the ingress of the fetid and ailing economic bacteria of the West and the United States into our Islamic country.

Prior to taking any steps with regard to foreign trade relations, we should initiate some deterrent and immunizing measures so that we can "vaccinate" our country and our revolutionary people against the West's economic viruses and thus protect ourselves from their negative effects. Since we did not do so before, such relations have allowed all sorts of fatal viruses to enter into our economic system, with which our dear nation now has to grapple.

At least in the Western capitalist countries, when the prices of goods increase, the government formulates plans and policies in such a manner that the purchasing power of the people rises proportionately. In Iran the government's policy on price increases is influenced by the West's import policies. According to our President: "Price increases are our objective! We are forced to raise prices to their realistic levels so that we can have a healthy economy. Subsidized prices do not permit the economy to evolve." (SALAM, 8 June)

Our government is raising prices to international levels without giving the people the purchasing power to save them from being crushed under the burden of debilitating inflation and rising prices. In such circumstances, all talk of social justice in speeches and interviews is mere hollow rhetoric without substance. There is no room for social justice in the terminally ill economic system we have inherited from the capitalist Western economy and from our relations with the United States.

We should have learned a lesson from the economic and trade relations of the Third World countries and Latin American countries with the United States and from the plight of the people of those countries. And then we should have made the necessary decisions. Unfortunately, we did not do so and our haphazard relations have brought the country to this serious level.

Another point to consider is that we should see whether the economy of the West or of the United States is the most perfect one in the world before we decide to link the destiny of our economy with theirs and establish close and extensive trade relations. According to the statistics in the newspapers of the West and the United States, they themselves concede that their economy is ailing and they are enduring crises and difficult conditions. Unemployment and employment problems have sapped the energy of their people, and their problems are at an irremediable level.

In such circumstances, how can we improve our economy and trade by linking our situation with the economic systems of the West and the United States? There are instances in which some countries have been able to achieve relatively strong bases for their economy without close ties with the West and the United States. The PRC is one such country; it has relied on its indigenous resources without close economic and trade ties with the West and the United States and it has managed to attain economic stability. Did Japan reach its present economic prosperity and development by establishing commercial relations with the United States? [passage omitted]

A third point that is worthy of mention is that I believe that commercial ties with the United States do not help our economy, nor will the Americans assist our economy. Instead—in view of what we have long known about the nature of Americans—they will find a way in so that they can deal greater blows to our country and Revolution. The United States is determined to cast aspersions on the nature and legitimacy of Iran's Islamic Revolution before the world and to destroy it. The Americans have tried by negative political, intelligence, and military means to do this but failed, so now they wish to enter by means of commercial relations.

The best course for them is through these commercial relations, which can bring into question the nature of the Islamic Revolution at home and abroad. After half a century we were able to prove that the United States is a hollow paper tiger with no power or strength. Today, in view of this incorrect and immature action on the part of some of the elements in our executive branch, the United States can proclaim to the world that the Islamic Republic of Iran has once again come back to them, that Iran has realized after these 15 years that it cannot do without them and is back where it was 15 years ago. The forging of commercial relations will destroy the identity, revolutionary prestige, and image of the Islamic Republic of Iran around the world and at home.

As for the economic point of view and the issue of technology, the second point I mentioned, it is my contention that the United States would never be willing to invest in the Islamic Republic of Iran or any other

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country in the Third World and to impart its technology. It will never do so, because it is facing an unemployment crisis and its own factories are at a standstill. In the West and the United States, there is an employment crisis.

In the past, they had delegated some assembly line technology to the Third World countries because they could not infiltrate the Third World markets by themselves. Therefore, they gave the Third World countries these assembly line industries and invested in them so America they could have an active presence in the international markets. Today, now that production has stopped in their own factories, they are not prepared to even give "montage" [preceding word in French] industries to the Third World, much less to Iran. [passage omitted]

I wish to mention this point for those who are in favor of relations with the United States: This experiment for the past few years with commercial relations with the United States should be enough to show that not only did the United States not reduce its pressure on Iran, it even managed to increase it. The technological problems of the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran were not only not resolved, economic and industrial problems were added to them. Our factories are closing down and our economic situation is daily becoming more serious.

If we wish to make any headway, we should rely on our own resources and the abilities of our people. We should take matters in hand and trust in God and thus stand on our own feet. Leaning on the enemy and relying on the Archsatan at various levels is not in the interest of our country, unless the United States is dragged down from its throne and behaves like any other country. In the words of his eminence, the imam: "If it became human." Such a change is quite unimaginable in a bloodthirsty wolf such as the United States.

[SALAM] In your opinion, would Iranian trade relations with the United States not be a precursor of future political relations?

[Mohtashami] With regard to this question, one should state that these two kinds of relations—that is, trade and economic relations—are closely intertwined with political relations. It is unimaginable that one can have economic and commercial relations with a country without also having diplomatic relations. Regardless of which comes first, they complement each other. [passage omitted]

If we were to have trade and economic relations with the United States, we would always be under political pressure and would be coerced into establishing diplomatic relations. It was for this reason that a decision was approved by the government serving in the era of his eminence the imam that no department or organization that is under government supervision, nor any factory or company has the right to commercial dealings with the United States. The only exception was permission to purchase from a U.S. company or department what was of vital importance to the country, to the Islamic Republic of Iran; and this was only if, without such a purchase, the thing for which it was needed would collapse and the country and nation would sustain irredeemable losses.

Even in such a case, the highest authorities had to sign and endorse such a transaction; only then could the purchase from the United States be made. If we could obtain the same item, raw materials, spare parts through an intermediary from another country, even at a higher price, it is to the benefit of our system that such a deal be carried out through the broker. This was the course adopted during the imposed war, when an economic embargo was clamped on the Islamic Republic of Iran by the United States. We followed this procedure and we did not sustain any irrevocable losses, and we were also able to stand on our feet and preserve our independence. It was on the basis of this decision that all the departments severed their economic and trade relations with the United States.

Some ministers and heads of various departments who constituted the majority at that time were not prepared to take steps for commercial ties with the United States under any circumstances. Those who were "behind the scenes" and who wished to have relations with the United States did not have the courage to sign letters to that effect or to declare that this was of vital importance to the relevant department. Until President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's government came to power, economic and commercial relations with the United States had perhaps reached zero and no such relations were being established.

Unfortunately, after that the westernized elements and those who have strong leanings toward the West swiftly penetrated the system and their number multiplied amazingly. They acted in a deceptive manner and bandied the issue at various gatherings, in the cabinet, and in the economic apparatus of the country. They contended that since Japan and other Western countries see no competitor on the economic scene, they had adopted a superior posture and were operating from a position of strength. Probably this is why they are demanding higher prices. Since we are forced to buy what we need from them, would it not be preferable if we were to create a strong competitor for the West so that the West and Japan cannot bully the Islamic Republic of Iran in their economic and trade relations. [passage omitted]'

Unfortunately, it is quite obvious to me and to any intelligent and realistic person that such relations have extremely adverse political consequences for the Revolution and for our system. The same people who were advocating economic and commercial relations with the United States and who have directed the country toward this goal are the ones who will say in the future (and some have already said) that it is quite meaningless not to have commercial relations with the United States and to remain aloof. They say: If we wish to pursue economic

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interests, we should be close friends with the United States and have direct talks with them. We can thus establish diplomatic relations with them, and the effect of such talks, the closeness, will depend on our diplomatic relations being at a high level. They will apply the same pressure for establishing diplomatic relations and lifting the ban as they did in lobbying for commercial relations.

I believe that if, God forbid, our politicians were to fall into this vortex, the situation in our country would be worse than it was in the accursed Pahlavi era, and what the fate of the Revolution and Islam will be then is as clear as the day.

During the Pahlavi regime, the Americans and the Westerners were in dire need of Iran's products, including oil, which was a strategic weapon in the hands of the governments. If one day, the oil faucets had been closed, the whole Western world and the United States would have been paralyzed. This is not the case today; oil is no longer a trump card at our disposal. Oil is not a monopoly any longer and the oil-rich countries do not have the same cohesion. The purchase of oil has now become a weapon in the hands of the enemies. They lower prices whenever they wish so that the country can be paralyzed. At times they reduce their purchases and again the country is paralyzed.

Even our exports to the United States and the West are levers in their hands, and so are our imports and commercial dealings, which the West uses as a weapon to impose its political views on the Islamic Republic of Iran. If such relations are established from a position of weakness, the more they show that the Islamic Republic of Iran needs the West and the United States, the greater will be the enemy's pressure on us to retreat from our revolutionary aspirations and the interests of our country.

It would be far better if we were to utilize the services of the sincere and capable forces in the Islamic Republic of Iran and, as the past experience has taught us—and other countries have had similar experiences—we should move ahead on the basis of our domestic and popular resources and capabilities. This is the path that can protect our interests. Any deviation from this path could culminate in internal and external pressure and subsequently result in political relations. This would certainly herald the downfall of all the revolutionary aspirations of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Saudi Nuclear Plans, 'Double Standards' Viewed

NC1108090594 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0345 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Commentary by the News Research and Commentaries Group]

[Text] A former Saudi diplomat who requested political asylum from the United States some time ago has revealed fresh efforts by the Riyadh government to manufacture nuclear arms. He said that Riyadh is trying to purchase nuclear reactors as part of a confidential plan to research and manufacture nuclear arms. The former Saudi diplomat, the second ranking Saudi official in the United Nations before he sought political asylum, has placed documents at the disposal of correspondents on Saudi officials' efforts to acquire nuclear technology. These documents include part of the correspondence between Chinese and Saudi officials on the sale of nuclear reactors.

Despite extensive reaction by world media to the news on Saudi Arabia's effort to gain access to nuclear technology and arms, U.S. officials, who claim to lead the efforts to prevent the spread of nuclear arms, most notably in the Middle East, have not been prepared to comment, either confirming or refuting this information. In a bid to reduce the pressure on Saudi Arabia, a State Department spokesman said the nuclear reactors will not be very effective in the spread of nuclear arms in the Middle East. The State Department spokesman preferred to remain silent on Saudi Arabia's assistance to the Iraqi regime to gain access to a nuclear bomb and did not answer correspondents' questions on this.

Political analysts believe the reason for America's cool, calm reaction is that the leaders of Washington and Tel Aviv have concluded that Saudi Arabia's efforts to gain access to nuclear arms do not constitute a threat to the Zionist regime and that this issue can easily be ignored.

But many regional countries are placed under pressure by America and the target of false propaganda merely because the Zionist regime claims that these countries may use nuclear reactors in their military research. And although these allegations by the United States and the Zionist regime have oft been refuted by inspectors of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Washington continues to confront these countries' economic development plans and their use of nuclear research centers within the framework of its policy of double standards.

Does the control of nuclear arms mean anything but ensuring the security of the Zionist regime at the cost of robbing other countries of their security?

Envoy to Germany on Western 'Disinformation'

LD1108103394 Tehran IRNA in English 0933 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 11, IRNA—Leader's representative in Germany Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Baqer Ansari has denounced the Western hostile attitude towards Muslims and said the west is responsible for what has happened during the last few years in Lebanon, Algeria, Iraq and Iran.

Ansari, also a former journalist, in an interview with English daily "TEHRAN TIMES" published Thursday, noted that Islam propagates peaceful coexistence with the followers of other religions. He underlined that the

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Israeli occupation of Lebanon with political and material aid from the west has created tension in the Middle East for the last two decades. Referring to 1980-88 Iraqi imposed war on the newly-born Islamic Republic, Ansari said "the West provoked Iraq to attack Iran".

Pointing to the Mashhad incident, he added that the June 20 bombing by the terrorist Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization (MKO) was highlighted by the Western media as a plot carried out by the Sunni Muslims. "Actually", the leader's representative continued, "the Western media was trying to sow discord between Shi'ite and Sunni Muslims and Iranian Christians and Muslims through a bundle of lies".

He scoffed at the reaction of the Western media which had turned a deaf ear to all the open confessions made by the terrorist MKO and stressed, "The Western attitude indicates their support for the grouplet but it will not be in their interest in the long run."

On the unrelenting disinformation campaign against Iran by the Western media in connection with the bombing of a Jewish center in Argentina and near the Israeli Embassy in London, Ansari remarked "such a phenomenon is not new as we have been witnessing this attitude of the West since the culmination of the Islamic revolution in 1979".

"They couldn't present a shred of proof against Iran and started a disinformation campaign with the sole objective of presenting a distorted picture of Islamic Iran as they had been doing before", the paper quoted him as saying.

Raja'i-Khorasani on Iraqi Ties, Resolution 598

NC1008213194 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 19 Jul 94 p 7

["Exclusive" interview with Majles Deputy Mohammad Sa'id Raja'i-Khorasani by an unidentified KEYHAN correspondent in Tehran; date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted on background of Resolution 598] [KEYHAN] What is the level of the relations between Iran and Iraq, and how are the political and diplomatic moves for expanding these relations progressing?

[Raja'i-Khorasani] The security of the region, the distinctive circumstances of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the role that is dictated by the safety and security of the region demands that we have the best and most friendly relations with all the countries of the region.

That is why the Islamic Republic of Iran is in favor of playing a consummate and full-fledged role in safeguarding the peace and security of the region—with the participation of other regional countries, of course. Unfortunately, the conditions prevailing in Iraq nowadays are not conducive to cooperation with the current regime there. For example, the criminal operations that were carried out by the Monafeqin [hypocrites—reference to Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization] in holy Mashhad recently and their other terroristic operations had the Iraqi regime's assistance. This indicates that the current Iraqi regime's programs and the internal situation in Iraq are not what they should be within the framework of fostering friendly relations between the two countries.

We observed that they have put military bases and installations as well as their intelligence service at the disposal of the Monafeqin. At the same time the Islamic Republic of Iran is willing in principle to establish and broaden relations with Iraq. This can only be possible if the Iraqis show a similar willingness in return, and we are still awaiting this.

From the economic point of view, we are also eager to have cordial economic relations with the Iraqi people. The Security Council Resolution however imposes some restrictions in this regard, but relations such as exchanges of pilgrims are possible. This also depends on cooperation on the part of the Iraqi regime.

In the current circumstances, the best move on the part of the Iraqi regime would be to sever its cooperation with the Monafeqin and the professional terrorists around the world and to reappear on the Middle Eastern region's political scene as a wholesome and sagacious regime beginning a new political life. This would provide the people of Iran and the Iraqi people an opportunity to revive their longstanding bonds of friendship.

[KEYHAN] What is the future of Resolution 598 after all these years? Basically, what steps has the United Nations, especially the Security Council taken, or will it take, for its complete implementation?

[Raja'i-Khorasani] We should not have high expectations with regard to the Security Council in view of its current composition. The complete implementation of this resolution depends on the nature of our relations with its five permanent members. Naturally, these relations should conform to their foreign policy. Since our relations are not consonant with their wishes, we do not expect them to heed them, nor are they displaying any eagerness to do so. [passage omitted]

Hashemi, Italian Envoy on Bilateral Ties

LD1008133194 Tehran IRNA in English 1233 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 10, IRNA—Italy's ambassador to Tehran, Giovanni Castellaneta, in a meeting with First Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Hashemi, here Wednesday, called for joint Tehran-Rome cooperation to fight international terrorism.

Referring to the June 20 blast in the holy shrine of Imam Reza (as) and the July 18 explosion in the Jewish community center in Buenos Aires, Castellaneta said these terrorist acts necessitate a global campaign against terrorism.

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On Tehran-Rome ties, Castellaneta expressed Italy's willingness to upgrade diplomatic and economic relations. He further added that his country is interested in an active role in Iran's Second Five Year Development Plan.

Hashemi expressed regret that after the victory of the 1979 Islamic revolution, Iran became target of terroristic attacks and it is world's greatest victim of terroristic acts as a result of which it has lost many prominent figures and personalities. The Iranian official said that it is even more regrettable that terrorists are living in those countries whose governments claim to be in the front line of anti-terrorism campaign. Unfortunately certain countries in the world are using issues of human rights and terrorism as a tool to attain their political goals and thus practicing the policy of double standard toward other states, Hashemi added. He stressed that as long as this logic prevails in the world, it is normal to see governments who in practice support terrorism and condemn it in words.

Hashemi also welcomed Italy's active participation in Iran's second development plan and said that Tehran likes its links with Rome to be an example for other countries.

Development Plan Referred for Second Reading

LD1008175894 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Excerpts] The Islamic Consultative Assembly completed its first reading of a bill on the Second Economic, Social, and Cultural Development Plan of the Islamic Republic of Iran [SDP] in an open session this afternoon and referred it back to the Coordination Committee for its second reading.

According to a report by our correspondent, several proposals by the Majlis deputies were approved to be added to the SDP bill. [passage omitted]

For the purpose of realizing Majlis supervision of the Islamic Revolution institutions and foundations, a committee is being set up, comprising seven Majlis deputies, who will have the right to oversee all the proceedings of establishments and foundations and will be charged to present at least one report to the Exalted Leader of the Islamic revolution and to the Majlis every six months. All those establishments and foundations are duty bound to put all the required information and data at the disposal of the committee. [passage omitted]

According to our correspondent, Majlis deputies approved the Majlis summer recess to begin tomorrow, 11 August and the next open session of the Majlis to be held on Saturday, 11 September.

Cabinet Praises Debate

LD1008181294 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Excerpt] The cabinet praised the Islamic Consultative Assembly for its meticulous discussion of the Second Development Plan [SDP] and carrying out appropriate amendments in the plan at this stage of its debate.

In a meeting, chaired by President Hashemi-Rafsanjnai, the cabinet confirmed the alignment and likemindedness of the government and the Majlis, taking into account that no major changes have been made in the government's proposed plan and the government's views have been endorsed by the Majlis, and expressed the hope that through the unanimity which exists between the legislative and executive powers, the SDP will be implemented under reassuring circumstances.

During the course of the meeting, the presidential deputy for executive affairs briefed the cabinet on commercial ties between Iran and China and it was decided that necessary measures would be carried out for the implementation of the memorandum of understanding from the 7th round of talks between Iran and China. [passage omitted]

Need To Rank Projects Seen

NC1108081694 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0345 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Commentary by the News Research and Commentaries Group]

[Text] The Majles has ended its first round of discussions on the Second Development Plan Bill. Long-term objectives, basic and general policies, and amendments to the plan were also discussed and approved. Once the second round of discussions is completed next month the bill will be placed on the agenda of the Majles open session for final approval.

One of the major objectives of the First Plan, which has also been emphasized in the deliberations on the Second Plan, is the completion of the country's infrastructural and development projects, since major industries in the petrochemical, steel, cement, infrastructural facilities, water and electricity, telecommunications, road construction, and other fields constitute the bases for expanding production and for creating jobs and, as a result, for comprehensive development. Thus the completion of semifinished projects in which major foreign exchange and rial investments have been made is considered the first step in the system's development plans.

Based on figures in front of the government and the Majles there are about 30,000 semicompleted projects countrywide. These projects need 27 trillion rials of credit and about 12 years to be completed. But forecasts have it that the country's foreign exchange income in the next five years is estimated at nearly $70 billion and budget allocations for development projects in this period are estimated at 12 trillion rials. To complete projects, the government and the Majles should look at the limited foreign exchange resources and prioritize and select.

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Economic experts believe that to allocate credits and to compile development programs in the next five years, several points should be considered. The first is that by a logical assessment of semifinished development projects, the need to complete these projects should be determined in proportion with economic potential, human resources, and the geographic location of the project, because the completion of some development projects has been delayed, with these projects going way beyond existing potential and the country's physical possibilities. The completion of such projects will be necessary only if these projects are proven to be economically beneficial.

A careful examination of semicompleted projects and the completion of those projects that are a link in the chain of large and successful projects should be granted priority because failure to complete a complementary project on time may harm the economic and financial benefits of the big project.

Experts believe that another criterion in prioritizing semicompleted projects is estimating how much foreign exchange will be economized once the project becomes operational. On the list of priorities will be those semicompleted projects that can, when completed with the necessary credit allocations, help make the country self-sufficient and lead to foreign exchange savings.

In relation with this, in compiling the policy for the Second Plan, the esteemed leader emphasized the need to observe priorities in infrastructural investments with the objective of completing the chain of production and preventing the country's assets from being wasted.

It seems the government and the Majles have considered the axes emphasized by the esteemed leader and have compiled development plans in such a way that they ensure the objectives of the leader and accelerate the country's development and progress, the economic benefits of which will be reaped by all the people.

Tank Reportedly Poses 'Tricky Puzzle' for West

LD1008131394 Tehran IRNA in English 1228 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] London, Aug. 10, IRNA—Photographs of Iran's Zulfiqar main battle tank, published here for the first time, has overturned western assumptions that it would be based upon Russia's T-72 model.

According to JANE'S DEFENSE WEEKLY, the domestically produced Iranian tank does not have any Russian resemblance and the analysis of its design is setting a tricky puzzle for the west's intelligence agencies.

When Zulfiqar, named after the sword of Imam 'Ali (as), was displayed for the first time in Tehran, suggestions in London and Washington, was that the battle tank would be based upon the widely- manufactured T-72. But pictures printed in the British-based military magazine this week were analyzed as disputing the theory by showing strong evidence of being powered by an air-cooled diesel engine and reflecting features more acquainted with other technology.

The design was seen by JANE's as conventional with the driver's compartment on the right and the loader's position on the left. The rectangular turret was well-sloped at the front with what was thought to be a 105mm rifled gun with a fume extractor. Some similarities were drawn to having more American than Russian influence.

The defense weekly was unsure about the true status of Iran's domestic arms industry, but said Tehran had been striving for self-sufficiency for several years and manufactured much equipement, including rockets, mortars, ammunition and small arms.

With regard to the Zulfiqar, it found it hard to decide whether it was an isolated prototype or an example of a series production main battle tank.

New Hormozgan Province Governor-General Appointed

LD1008124194 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1130 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Interior Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati-Jahromi ended his visit to Chahar Mahal va Bakhtiyari Province this morning and left for Hormozgan Province.

Upon arrival in the provincial capital, Bandar Abbas, he attended a meeting of local officials and introduced Mr. Gholam-Abbas Za'eri as Hormozgan province's new governor-general.

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